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Volume 70, Issue 38 · www.wilcoxnewspapers.com
Thursday, March 20, 2025

OPS sets interviews for superintendent candidates

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

The search for the next superintendent of Otsego Public Schools continues to move forward.

On Thursday, March 13, members of the Otsego School Board met to review the 22 individuals who had applied for the position. Deeming the group of applicants as "excellent," the board selected seven candidates to advance to the next phase of the selection process.

The Board—which is being assisted in the search process by the Michigan Association of School Boards with Dr. Rodney Green as the consultant—will interview those seven candidates beginning at 9 a.m. on Saturday, March 22.

The interviews will take place at the Otsego High School media center and is open to the public. A second round of interviews is planned for Tuesday, March 25.

Candidates and the times they will be interviewed are as follows:

* **9:00 a.m. Melissa Remillard, M.A.** in Educational Administration, Associate Superintendent for Holland Public Schools since 2022. Previously, she was elementary principal in Paw Paw and a principal, transformational coach and teacher in Battle Creek Public Schools.

* **10:00 a.m., Mike Dunn, Ed.D.**, assistant superintendent in Dowagiac since 2022. Previously, he was elementary principal in Buchanan, Director of Curriculum in Indiana, elementary principal in Athens. He also was a principal and teacher in Indiana.

From left to right, top to bottom: Christie Robinson, Jaym Abraham, Matthew Webster, Melissa Coleman, Melissa Remillard, Mike Dunn and Rob Pouch

* **11:00 a.m. Jaym Abraham, M.A.** in Educational Leadership, Middle School Principal in Caledonia since 2018. Previously, he was a principal and assistant principal in Allegan

■ see **Candidates**, Page A12

PHS presents 'Tuck Everlasting: The Musical'

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

If you had the opportunity to live forever, would you take it?

That's the question at the heart of "Tuck Everlasting: The Musical," which Plainwell High School will perform from Friday, March 28, through Sunday, March 30.

The Friday and Saturday performances begin at 7 p.m. at the Plainwell Performing Arts Center, while the Sunday show begins at 2 p.m.

This musical, which is based on the 1975 novel by Natalie Babbitt, was one that resonated with Plainwell High School choir director Abby Ernst.

"I've always been a fan of the story of 'Tuck Everlasting,' and it's been close to my heart since I read the book in my sixth-grade ELA class," Ernst said. "And the whimsical setting is such a stark contrast from the past few shows I have directed.

"With this being the first show at Plainwell that I've gotten to see all the way through the process, from selection to final curtain call, I knew I wanted to do a show that I really resonate with. After 'Mean Girls' last year, I knew I wanted to do a musical with more classical roots and a heartwarming, family-friendly message."

"Tuck Everlasting" takes place in 1893 and tells the story of 11-year-old Winnie Foster, who decides to run away and end up in the woods. There, she meets the Tuck family, who have not aged since 1803 since stumbling upon a spring that provides immortality to those who drink from it.

Winnie must decide if she wants to ultimately join the Tucks in immortality or continue life as it is meant to be lived.

"The themes through the show are love, family and the preciousness of time," Ernst said. "This show is truly so special: the music, the set design, the choreography and the story itself."

Vija Kengis takes on the role of Winnie.

"This year's cast has been a real pleasure to work with," Ernst said. "We have a strong group of seniors and returners, but we also have a large group of spitfire freshmen. That includes our lead, Vija, who is playing the part of Winnie beautifully.

"It has been a cool process coaching the students through finding their characters. In our last show, they were basically playing themselves, but this year they are playing a variety of characters ranging in age from 11 to 80, which has been an exciting challenge."

Members of the Tuck family include Logan Mollitor as Jesse, Maryn Randall as Mae, Avry Asbeury as Miles and Caleb Braybrooks as Angus.

It's been a fun cast for Ernst to work with.

"One of my favorite parts of directing is seeing those 'ah-ha' moments when a student really unlocks an aspect of their performance," she said." Every day I watch the students come in and check their troubles at the door and for three hours they get to live in a world outside of their own.

"I especially love when they hype each other up. It's so cool the first time the rest of the cast gets to see a number that they've been working on and they react and cheer so loud for their peers."

Other cast members include:

* Man in the Yellow Suit: Jackson Kersten
*Mother: Trisha Shuck
* Nana: Ava Klann
* Hugo: Milan Mena
* Constable Joe: Allison Holewa
* Principal Dancers: Lydia Roberts (Dance Captain), Clara Cooper, Addison Bohne, Brooklyn Herbert, Vivian Edgell, Avery MacMullen, Savannah Such and Olivia Rowe
* Ensemble (Travelers, Carnies): Samantha Colvin (Ensemble Captain/ Lead Voice), Lilah Cutler, Chiara Oriente, Anna Zdarska, Fiona Murray, Sam Emick, Maia Maher, Riley Shuck, Riley Anastasi, Anthony Anastasi, Kiera Callahan, Brody Warner, Carmen Roth, Lauryn Cook, Zoe West, Abby Youngs and Ethan Roberts.

"The audience will be blown away by the incredible set design," Ernst said. "I'm so lucky to have an amazing construction crew, who really brought the vision to life, complete with a tree growing right out of the stage. When the show begins, they will be transported into a pop-up storybook. The music is chill-inducing, the dancing is magical and the story takes you on a journey.

"You will laugh and you will cry, and leave the PAC with a renewed perspective on the preciousness of love and time."

Tickets are $15 for adults and $13 for students, with children five and under admitted free. Tickets can be purchased at plainwellschools.ludus.com.

"My students throughout this process have been so shocked by the fact that this musical never really gained a huge following," Ernst said. "It's a tragedy that we call the 'Hamilton Effect' due to the musicals being released the same year and, as we all know, Hamilton overshadowed any Broadway show at the time.

"The opportunity to see this show does not come around often, but it really is an incredible one. Come and see it while you can."

State Champs

It was a good day for area swimmers and divers at the Division 3 State Finals on Saturday, March 15.

Otsego's Liam Smith (left) won titles in the 200 IM and the 100 butterfly, while Plainwell's Sam Harper claimed the 500 freestyle title.

Also earning All-State were Otsego's Caleb Wesseldyk (diving) and Willsun Fuller (100 fly) as well as the Bulldogs' 400 free relay team. See full story on Page B1. (Photo provided)

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Vernal Equinox brings out the Vernal Pool Patrol

By Gari Voss

The Allegan Conservation District in partnership with the Vernal Pool Patrol (VPP) announced the beginning of Vernal Pool monitoring across Michigan, including Allegan County.

Vernal pools are seasonal wetlands that fill when the snow melts and spring rains fall. Identifying and monitoring these living ecosystems require people with a passion for ecology.

Not every woodland or marshy puddle is a vernal pool. Therefore, workshops are offered to train everyday "researchers" how to monitor a pool to determine if it meets the criteria. Those in Southwest Michigan receive training from Michigan State University Extension with a follow-up "field trip" led by Nathan Hilbrands, a Watershed Technician with the Allegan Conservation District and the Vernal Pool program coordinator for Allegan County.

""The vernal pools can show up anywhere in the forest where there are depressions that collect water in the winter and spring. are extremely important to balancing the ecosystem. These areas are extremely important for species like frogs and salamanders. Since they tend to dry up, they don't maintain a fish population. This makes them a safe spot for these populations to lay eggs without fearing predation from fish," explained Hilbrands. "They also provide habitats for all kinds of bugs, invertebrates, reptiles, turtles, birds, and other species so they are important parts of a woodland ecosystem."

When considering the importance of monitoring, Hilbrands continued, "The monitoring is important because the Vernal Pools fall between the cracks of wetland regulations. They are smaller and seasonal, so they might not fit the categories for wetlands that are protected in Michigan. In that sense, they are kind of forgotten about or ignored even though they play such an important part in the ecosystem."

The monitoring takes place in the spring and the fall. "It is important to return in the fall to see if it has dried up or not. If you go to a spot consistently, and it is not ever drying up then it may just be a permanent pond and not a Vernal Pool," said Hilbrands. "If it is a wet year, it may not dry up completely, but sometime, it does need to dry up, so it doesn't maintain a fish population."

When approaching a pool of water, researchers take care to wear sturdy, waterproof footwear, long-sleeved shirts and pants, and a sun hat. They do not wear bug spray or sunscreen that may damage the eggs or developing embryos.

Eggs and embryos of key species are indicators of a true vernal pool. These include Fairy Shrimp in any stage of life, 10 or more blue-spotted Salamander egg masses, 20 or more Spotted Salamander egg masses, and 40 or more Wood Frog egg masses. Often other species may be present like the Jefferson Salamander, Marbled Salamander, Green Frog, Bull Frog, American Toad, Spring Peepers, spotted turtles, ringed Boghaunter dragonfly, and Blanding's turtles. While harboring these, there must not be fish that would dine on the eggs and embryo.

The habitats of these species vary. Pools may be less than a tenth of an acre to 2 acres. Natural ponds form from melted snow and spring rain, but they do not have a permanent inlet or outlet. These are temporary to semi-permanent pools that exist in shallow depressions in forested landscapes.

To improve observation skills, techniques for gathering data and note taking tips, workshops are valuable. Hilbrands shared that even though the online workshops were set for March 4, 11, and 18, 2025, there are still ways to receive training and attend the In-person Field Trip into the Allegan Game Area on Saturday, March 29th.

To become involved, Hilbrands explained, "On the Vernal Pool Website [https://vernal-pool-patrol-mnfi.hub.arcgis.com/], there is a tab for Trainings & Events. The training materials will be available until May 2, 2025. There are three workshops in the series. Those interested in monitoring can complete the series and the paperwork if they wish to become monitors."

Hilbrands continued, "Even if a you don't want to do monitoring but want to learn more about Vernal Pools and participate in an educational event, you are welcome to attend the Field Study. We have found that though some people do the training to monitor pools in areas like the Allegan Game Forest, others just monitor the pools on their own property. Private pools are not registered on the maps because we do not want people going onto private land."

The In-Person Training Event will be March 29, 2025, at the Allegan State Game Area. Register by emailing Allegan County's program coordinator, Nathan Hilbrands, at nathan.hilbrands@macd.org.

Vernal Pool season is approaching! The Allegan Conservation District is partnering with the Vernal Pool Patrol (VPP) to monitor vernal pools in Allegan County, and you can get involved! The Vernal pools are seasonal wetlands that fill with water from snowmelt and rain in the spring then dry up in the summer heat. They are crucial to the woodland ecosystem. Vernal Pool Patrol information can be found at https://vernal-pool-patrol-mnfi.hub.arcgis.com/. The In-Person Training Event will be March 29, 2025, at the Allegan State Game Area. Register by emailing Allegan County's program coordinator, Nathan Hilbrands, at nathan.hilbrands@macd.org.

Birdie's Party - a delightful bust

Birdie (right played by Lacey Morton) was neither delighted or impressed with Adrian's (Courtney Stewart) attempt to throw a surprise birthday party for her. The Bird Day Party is an original play by Spike Kunetz that brings out the best intentions and the human flaws of the regulars at Birdie's Bar. The tickets for the March 23rd and 30th performances are sold out, but a request to join the waiting list may bring results. Photo: G. Voss

By Gari Voss

The Bird Day Party by Spike Kunetz opened Sunday evening, March 16, 2025, at Tilt 118 in Allegan to a full house. The audience became entwined with best intentions that hoped to gain favor, backfiring pranks, long-held grudges, and all around human flaws.

Bringing a production set in a bar into a real bar requires some special choreography. Writer and director Kunetz wove the community of Allegan into the script and adjusted the staging to fit Tilt 118's bar and game room. The cast moved fluently through the space as their stories developed and emotions began to run deeper than just one night at Birdie's.

The bantering between customers and bar staff weaves into one night the decisions of a married couple (Courtney Stewart & Michael Troub) with the recollections of a long-time community member (David Hodge) with a sharp-witted widow (Linda Havens), with an uncle (John Morton) and nephew (Mason Haas), a blind date (Timothy Farrell-Bandy), a testy bar owner (Lacey Morton), and an X-rated surprise (Todd Spratt).

Kudos to the cast and crew (Ryan Burza and Brad Crawshaw), and special thanks to Matt Adams and his capable staff for an evening of chuckles and self-discovery.

Watch for the next 2025 productions by the Allegan Community Players:

April 25, 26, 27: Youth Edition of the One Act Play Festival

June 21, 22: Theater in the Park at the Mahan Park Gazebo

Sept. 26, 27, 28: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe at the Griswold Main Stage

Dec. 12: Holiday Sing Along at the Griswold Main Stage

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Allegan Folklife Festival expands offerings

By Gari Voss

The Arts = "various practices or objects expressed by people with skill, creativity, and imagination across cultures and history. These activities include painting, sculpture, music, theatre, dance, literature, film, and more."

The Allegan, MI area is filled with talented, creative, imaginative people who enjoy expressing themselves through a variety of physical medium. They combine the seven elements of art - line, shape, space, value, form, texture, and color – to create emotions on all levels.

Saturday, March 29, 2025, from 10am to 8pm, Allegan High School will be brimming with the Arts. Artists and Artisans will fill the halls around the Performing Arts Center. Instrumentalists and vocalists will take the Main Stage or present workshops in rooms. Those in attendance will discover numerous types of instrumental music, wonderful visual art, plus a variety of crafts.

Main Stage performances begin with the Allegan High School Concert Band and the 501 Swing Street Band followed by the High School Choir and the Ellis and M.E. Band. The Deerfield Run Country Band will take the stage in the afternoon, and the evening will be capped off with The Smokin Drobroleles followed by a couple hours with the ever popular Schlitz Creek Bluegrass Band. A fantastic ending to an extremely busy day.

The 2025 Allegan Folklife Music–Art Festival is including some performing arts. In past years, the Art Festival has included a wide variety of arts and crafts plus the performing art of music. On Sat., March 29, 2925, the Festival will include Native American dance. The hallways, classrooms And Performing Arts Center at Allegan High School will be brimming with activity from 10am to 8pm.

During the day, down the Artist Hall, groups like the Dulcimer Club will be performing. In the room near the entrance, a Jam Session will run from Noon-4, and those who bring an instrument can join when they wish and stay for as long as they wish.

The workshops will feature a variety of musical artists and instrumentalists. Highlighted will be the Gun Lake Language and Cultural Center as they conduct a PowWow Dance Workshop. Sessions will also be offered on the claw hammer banjo, drumming, and the ukulele.

The trick will be to plan the day in order to attend workshops, enjoy performances on the Main Stage, and investigate every hallway of vendors.

To prepare for a stressless day, review the schedule now, mark favorites, then get a handbill upon arrival at the High School Performing Arts Center. Follow the arrows and numbers to reach destinations in a timely fashion.

The Schedule for Sat., March 29th:

10-11:00: Allegan High School Band with the 501 Swing Street Band

11-3:00: Cafeteria is open for lunch & dinner

11:15-12:15: Allegan High School Choir with the Ellis & M.E. Band, a trio passionate about their acoustic music that comes from a creative blend of wood & strings, innovative songwriting, tight vocal harmonies and covers that speak to our lives and times.

11-12:00: Original Dulcimer Club of Kalamazoo (Artist Hall)

11:30-12:30: Claw Hammer Banjo Workshop – Joel Mabus

12-4:00: K'zoo Folklife "Come & Go" Open Jam

1-2:00: Original Dulcimer Club of Kalamazoo

1:30-2:30: Gun Lake Tribe PowWow Workshop

2:30-3:15: Deerfield Run Country Band whose sound blends blues rock with a touch of country and a dash of funk, serving up an irresistible mix of music.

3:30-4:30: Drum Workshop – Dede Adler

4:30-5:30: Ukulele Workshop – Ben Hassenger

5:15-6:00: Smokin Drobroleles whose sound is a mash up of bluegrass, country, hip hop, reggae, blues, funk, jazz, rock and roll, and Americana.

6:15-8:00: Schlitz Creek Bluegrass Band performs a unique variety of bluegrass music that cannot be classified as strictly traditional or progressive. Their repertoire includes standard bluegrass tunes as well as a collection of refreshing and unusual choices for a bluegrass band.

The 2025 Allegan Folklife Music–Art Festival is organized through the efforts of the Allegan Chapter of the K'zoo Folklife Organization and has received support from the National Endowment of the Arts, the Michigan Arts & Culture Council, the Mignon Sherwood Delano Foundation, The Allegan County Community Foundation, and the Ascension Borgess Foundation. There is no entrance fee, but a freewill offering at the door will assist in meeting the costs of performers and other expenditures.

Annual Cash Party supports Education Foundation mission

The Education Foundation of Allegan Public Schools' 22nd Annual Cash Bash raffled more than 40 donations including a quilt created by Cathy Bishop who repurposed Code Orange T-shirts. The Foundation Board thanks all who contributed raffle items and who came to enjoy the evening at the Silo on Sat., March 15, 2025.

By Tamara Sternberg & Gari Voss

The Education Foundation of Allegan Public Schools held its 22nd Annual Cash Party on Saturday, March 15, 2025, at the Silo. The event brought together nearly 150 attendees in support of the Foundation's mission to enhance educational offerings and provide scholarship opportunities for students in the Allegan Public Schools District.

Founded in 1988, the Education Foundation aims to enrich classroom experiences beyond what the district's annual budget allows. To accomplish this, the Foundation provides mini-grants to teaching staff and administers several scholarships for graduating Allegan High School seniors.

Thanks to contributions for over 40 individuals and businesses, this year's event featured 18 exciting packages, a 50/50 drawing, and a unique silent auction item – a handmade quilt crafted by Cathy Bishop using 13 CODE Orange T-shirts from past years.

"We are grateful for the incredible support we receive from local businesses and community members," said a Foundation representative. "The success of this event helps us continue to serve the students and staff of Allegan Public Schools with programs that make a lasting impact."

The Education Foundation extends a heartfelt thank you to all those who contributed to the event's success by donating gifts and/or attending the Saturday night bash, and to the ongoing efforts of so many to support education in Allegan.

This year's Bash garnered about $8,000 with the possibility of additional contributions. If you would like to make a donation to The Education Foundation of Allegan Public Schools, email edfoundationofaps@alleganps.org or mail a check to 550 5th St., Allegan, MI 49010.

Swindell to perform at Allegan County Fair

Cole Swindell and Conner Smith will perform at the Allegan County Fair on Saturday, Sept 6, 2025 at 7pm

Tickets go on sale Friday, March 21st at 10am. www.allegancountyfair.com www.etix.com Call 269-673-6501 or come to the fair office!

This year the 173rd Allegan County Fair will run September 5 – 13, 2025!

BIRD CAGE ANTIQUE
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SATURDAY – MARCH 22 – 10:00 A.M.

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BRIEF LISTING….Too many items to list separately - check web for many pictures

Furniture: Louis XV style Polish steel & bronze marble top console table, wood carved stools, side board, oriental lighted lacquer display cabinet, step back cabinet, Primitive kitchen cupboard, marble top wash stand, La Barge Mirrors; Amish made cabinets, Victorian sofa and chairs, parlor tables Stickley Cabinet, Marble top cabinets, Drexel drop leaf table, marble columns; inlay nesting tables; stools & benches,

Glassware – Germany, Bravia, Royal Doulton, hand painted Japan, Czech, Belleek, 4 Piece Flow Blue pitcher & bowl set; Ruby Red decanter & stemware; MANY pieces of crystal cut glass vases, bowls, etc; Blue Bristol Vase; Prussia tea set; Brass figurines; spongeware bowls & plater; Large Capodimonte vases & horse with carriage; Thuny Czech china set; panel lamps; stick & hat pins with ceramic pin holder; porcelain clown figurines; large amount of silverplate – punch bowls, servers, goblets

AUCTION: NOTE: Owner, Duane Weeks has contracted Dales Auctioneering Service LLC to liquidate his assets. Continue to watch web site for future/up coming auctions. Payment cash, check, or Credit Card

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Bands:
Smokin Dobroleles
Schlitz Creek Bluegrass Band
Ellis and M.E. with HS Choir
501 Swing Street with HS Band
Deerfield Run Country Band
Original Dulcimer Club

Art Show:
40 artist displaying and selling their creative arts and crafts.

WORKSHOPS:
Native Pow Wow Dance (Gun Lake Language & Culture Department)
Ukulele Class (Ben Hassenger-Jackson, MI)
Claw Banjo (Joel Mabus– Kalamazoo, MI)
African Drum (Dede Alder–Delton, MI)
Open Jam Room

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269-993-7678 Donations at the door

Community Events

Community Calendar - Week of Mar. 17, 2025

EVENTS TO WATCH FOR!

Pick Up March Madness Basketball Brackets

Mon., Mar. 17 – 24, 2025: Beautify Pullman Online Auction
Beautify Pullman Facebook or https://charityauction.bid/ExperienceMichigan2025

Wed., Mar. 19, 2025, Noon-2pm: 2025 Allegan County Gives & Volunteer Fair
The Silo M40 S. Allegan

Thurs., Mar. 20, 2025, 4-6pm: Third Thirsty Thursday – business open house
Schaendorf Brewing 412 Water St. Allegan

Sat., Mar 22, 2025, 9-11am: Walk4Warmth 5K & Charity Walk
Allegan Sports Complex 1451 19th St. Allegan

Sat., Mar. 22, 2025, 5pm: Thyroid Cancer Benefit
Allegan Eagles Chestnut St. Allegan

Sun., Mar. 23, 2025, 7:30pm: The Bird Day Party
The Tilt 118 Brady St. Allegan

Wed., Mar. 26, 2025, 11am-12:30pm: Allegan Co. CHNA Results
Michigan Room Ascension Borgess Allegan Hospital Allegan

CURRENT EVENTS

Wed., Mar. 19, 2025, 11am-6pm: Red Cross Blood Drive
Griswold Auditorium basement Hubbard St. Allegan
Sign up to donate at https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/find-drive or drop in.

Wed., Mar. 19, 2025, Noon-2pm: 2025 Allegan County Gives & Volunteer Fair
The Silo M40 S. Allegan
Tied to Allegan County Gives, MACC will hold its second Volunteer Fair open to all interested in learning about volunteer opportunities. All are welcome to meet with participating organizations. Grant drawings and participant tote bags will be available.

Wed., Mar. 19, 2025, 4-6pm: Food Addicts Anonymous with FRIENDS
1st Presbyterian Church 200 Cutler St. Allegan
Karen DeHaan from FAA Organization will discuss about the principles of Food Addiction. Healthy snacks will be served.

Wed., Mar. 19, 2025, 5:30pm: Pub Quiz Trivia
Tantrick Brewing Co. 243 Hubbard St. Allegan
Bring a team and your library card and test your knowledge!

Wed., Mar. 19, 2025, 6-8pm: Hummingbird Feeder
Thurs., Mar. 20, 2025, 1-3pm: Hummingbird Feeder
Brave Art Studios 1873 Lincoln Rd. Allegan
Come out and make an irresistible feeder. Register at https://www.paypal.me/braveartcarr. For info email. brave.art.carr@gmail.com.

Thurs., Mar. 20, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
10:30am: Preschool Storytime – 2-5 yr. olds & caregivers can enjoy stories & fun.
6pm: Great Lakes Great Stories – Michigan's Ladies of the Lights with Dianna Stampfler introduce women ahead of their time in taking on dangerous and physically demanding jobs of tending lighthouses.

Thurs., Mar. 20, 2025, 1-3pm: Paint a Hummingbird Feeder
Brave Art Studios & Gallery 1873 Lincoln Road, Allegan
Come and paint. All supplies provided. Register at brave.art.carr@gmail.com.

Thurs., Mar. 20, 2025, 3-6pm: Walk-In DIT Sassy Shirt Bar
Sassy Olive 125 Locust St. Allegan
Create your very own one-of-a-kind shirt! Tees starting at $25, crewnecks at $50, and hoodies for $65.

Thurs., Mar. 20, 2025, 4-6pm: Third Thirsty Thursday
Schaendorf Brewing 412 Water St. Allegan
The Allegan Area Chamber of Commerce and the Allegan Jaycee's are collaborating to introduce Third Thirsty Thursdays for 2025! This exciting new event is for the movers & shakers in the Allegan area community, who are looking to network and make connections in a relaxed setting,

Thurs., Mar. 20, 2025, 6:30pm: Music Bingo Thursday
Tantrick Brewing Co 243 Hubbard St. Allegan
Bring a friend and check your memory!

Fri., Mar. 21, 2025, 4:30-8pm: Fish FRYday
LYNX Golf Course 900 Lincoln Rd. Otsego
Enjoy fried pollack, fries, coleslaw & bread.

Fri., Mar. 21, 2025, 6pm: Teen Tech Night
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
6-12 graders can explore 3-D printing and play video games with friends. Register at (269) 673-4625.

Fri., Mar. 21, 2025, 7pm: Trivia Night
Allegan Eagles 110 Chestnut St. Allegan
Test your trivia skills and maybe win some nice prizes. This is always a fun event.

Sat., Mar 22, 2025, 9-11am: Walk4Warmth 5K & Charity Walk
Allegan Sports Complex 1451 19th St. Allegan
Community Action of Allegan County invites all to join the walk and earn money to assist Allegan County residents in need with utility assistance. To learn more or to register, please visit https://p2p.onecause.com/walk4warmth25.

Sat., Mar. 22, 2025, 11am-3pm: Teen & Adult Intro to D&D
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
Ages 12 and up can join the Dungeon Master (DM) to learn how to play Dungeon & Dragons. Register at (269) 673-4625.

Sat., Mar. 22, 2025, 5pm: Thyroid Cancer Benefit
Allegan Eagles Chestnut St. Allegan
Enjoy an evening of music, food, fun and support. Music by Dysfunctional Entertainment and the Legendary Strum, Dumb and Dumber, Food highlights Big Mike's Pulled Pork Dinner, and Support starts with bidding on Raffle Baskets. The evening is to raise awareness and funds for Thyroid Cancer Research.

Sat., Mar. 22, 2025, 7-10pm: St. Paddy's Day Encore w/Brian McClure
Tantrick Brewing Co 243 Hubbard St. Allegan
Come for live music & more shenanigans!

Sat., Mar. 22, 2025, 9am-10pm: Saugatuck – Community Film Festival
Saugatuck Center for the Arts 400 Culver St. Saugatuck
Immerse yourself in a sensory journey at Mountainfilm on Tour: Saugatuck, an extraordinary experience where you'll be transported around the world. https://www.facebook.com/events/567594149540096

Sun., Mar. 23, 2025, 7:30pm: The Bird Day Party
The Tilt 118 Brady St. Allegan
Welcome to Birdie's Bar when the irregular regulars throw Bridy a birthday party that unwelcome guests turn into a madcap escapade. Get tickets at allegancommunityplayers.org. Order food before 6:30pm and drinks by 7pm then sit back and enjoy the fun. Seating is limited. Tickets may or may not be available at the door.

Mon., Mar. 24, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
1pm: Craft & Snack – Bring a project, work, chat and snack.
3:30pm: Pokemon Kids Club – Ages 5-11 can dive into the world of Pokemon. Bring your own cards to trade.

Mon., Mar. 24, 2025, 4-8pm: Stitch Night at the Den
The Bear & Fox Yarn Den 141 Brady St. Allegan
All are welcome to drop in for a casual evening of fun stitching in The Den! Bring your crochet, knit, embroidery-whatever fiber art and enjoy some fellowship!

Tues., Mar. 25, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
10:30am: Lapsit Storytime – 0-2 yr olds & caregivers can enjoy stories & fun.
1pm: Friends of the Library Mtg. – all are invited to join the discussion.
6pm: Rosie the Riveter: Veterans of the Home Front – How women stepped forward to build weapons of war. Focus will be on the Willow Run B-24 Bomber Plant while men went into military service.

Tues., Mar. 25, 2025, 6pm: Euchre Tournament at Tantrick
Tantrick Brewing 243 Hubbard St. Allegan
Play with a purpose! $10 per person! Sign up at the tap room or send Tantrick a message on Facebook. The winner gets to choose the local non-profit to receive proceeds from the next one!

Wed., Mar. 26, 2025, 11am-12:30pm: Allegan Co. CHNA Results
Michigan Room Ascension Borgess Allegan Hospital Allegan
Open to all MACC members. This online /virtual event is open to all and will share the results of the Allegan County Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA).

Wed., Mar. 26, 2025, 5-6:30pm: An evening with the Williams Family Trio and Jack Dailey
1st Presbyterian Church 200 Cutler St. Allegan
The music will be followed at 6:30pm with a Soup Supper. The $14 fundraiser will go to purchase a new dishwasher.

Wed., Mar. 26, 2025, 10am: Play Café
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
Caregivers can enjoy a cup of coffee while little ones are having fun in their area.

Wed., Mar. 26, 2025, 6-8pm: Sunflowers
Thurs., Mar. 27, 2025, 1-3pm: Sunflowers
Brave Art Studios 1873 Lincoln Rd. Allegan
Learn to paint Sunflowers! No experience necessary. Register at https://www.paypal.me/braveartcarr. For info email. brave.art.carr@gmail.com.

Thurs., Mar. 27, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
10:30 am: Preschool Storytime – 3-5 yr. olds & caregivers can hear stories and enjoy activities.
3:30pm: Bike Repair with Tom Hunter – learn bike repair techniques from Mr. Hunter. Register at (269) 673-4625.

Thurs., Mar. 27, 2025, 3-6pm: Walk-In DIY Sassy Shirt Bar
The Sassy Olive 125 Locust St. Allegan
Create your very own one-of-a-kind shirt! Tees starting at $25, crewnecks at $50, and hoodies for $65.

Thurs., Mar. 27, 2025, 6:30pm: Music Bingo Thursday
Tantrick Brewing Co 243 Hubbard St. Allegan
Bring a friend and check your memory!

Fri., Mar. 28, 2025, 10:30am: Sing Song Family Yoga
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
All ages can join Deb Weiss-Gelmi as she combines yoga, music, and literacy together in this unique, engaging, and fun-loving experience for kids and their adult caregivers.

Fri., Mar. 28, 2025, 4:30-8pm: Fish FRYday
LYNX Golf Course 900 Lincoln Rd. Otsego
Enjoy fried pollack, fries, coleslaw & bread.

Fri., Mar. 28, 2025, 6pm: Chris Karl live at the Allegan Eagles
Allegan Eagles 110 Chestnut St. Allegan
Chamber Member Event to enjoy favorite classic rock.

Fri., Mar. 28, 2925, 10pm: Kitten's Rockabilly Trio
Schaendorf Brewing Co. 412 Water St. Allegan
Enjoy late evening fun.

Sat., Mar. 29, 2025, 11am: Jumpstart Your Genealogy
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
Professional Genealogist Megan Heyl is back to help us hunt down and organize our family histories.

Sat., Mar. 29, 2925, 10am-8pm: Allegan Folklife Music/Art Festival
Allegan High School Western Ave. Allegan
A fun filled day listening to bands from across Southwest Michigan, admire the work of 40 artists and craft individuals, and attend workshops on Native Pow Wow Dance, Ukulele, Claw Banjo and African Drumming. Supported by The National Endowment of the Arts, The MI Arts & Culture Council, the Mignon Delano Foundation, the Allegan County Community Foundation, and Ascension Borgess.

Sat., Mar. 29, 2025, 8pm: Twilight Tunes - Dueling Pianos at the Eagles
Allegan Eagles 110 Chestnut St. Allegan
A Chamber Member Event to enjoy this incredible group that will play just about anything requested.

Sun., Mar. 30, 2025, 7:30pm: The Bird Day Party
The Tilt 118 Brady St. Allegan
Welcome to Birdie's Bar when the irregular regulars throw Bridy a birthday party that unwelcome guests turn into a madcap escapade. Get tickets at allegancommunityplayers.org. Order food before 6:30pm and drinks by 7pm then sit back and enjoy the fun. Seating is limited. Tickets may or may not be available at the door.

Mon., Mar. 31, 4-5pm: Small Business Support Group
Tantrick Down Under Riverfront Plaza Allegan
Small business owners in Allegan and the surrounding area can casually come together and talk all things business related. Meet the last Monday of every month. March focuses on IT management.

Mon., Mar. 31, 2025, 6pm: Family BINGO
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
Enjoy fun competition and win prizes.

Mon., Mar. 31, 2025, 4-8pm: Stitch Night at the Den
The Bear & Fox Yarn Den 141 Brady St. Allegan
All are welcome to drop in for a casual evening of fun stitching in The Den! Bring your crochet, knit, embroidery-whatever fiber art and enjoy some fellowship!

Mon., Mar. 31, 2025, 6pm: WUS Community Forum
Ebersole Center – Main Lodge 3400 2nd St. Wayland
The Admin Team & Board of Education invite the public to come ask questions or share ideas, and learn about the next steps and anticipated timeline for Bond 2023 projects.

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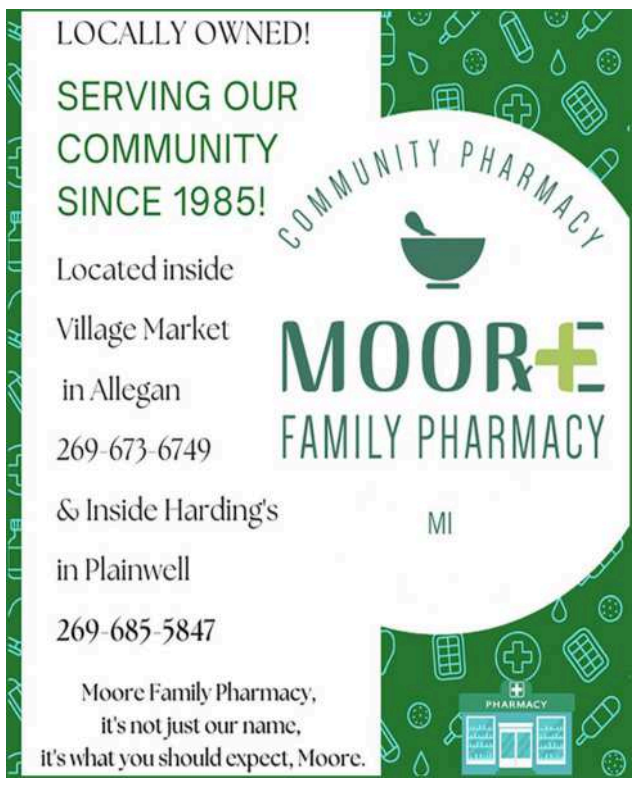

Traveling weapon museum entertains at Dorr Library

By Piper Raab

On the evening of Thursday, March 13th, the Dorr Township Library hosted the "Irish Warriors during the Renaissance" presentation by Professor Jerry Berg, from the Swordsmanship Museum and Academy, located in Comstock Park. Professor Berg is a graduate of Grand Valley State University with a double major in History and Secondary Education. He is a Professor of History at Grand Valley State University. First established in 2021, the Museum of Swordsmanship and Academy is a traveling museum of artifacts with an interactive, as well as informative presentation.

The audience that night, was comprised of, a wide range of ages, from: elementary students, teens, and all the way up to Seniors. Questions and answers were encouraged throughout the evening. The Irish Kern and the Gallow Glass Warriors of Ireland and their weapons, during the 1,500's, were the highlighted topics of discussion.

Professor Berg first described the time period dress; which was a saffron (yellow) linen shirt with large billow sleeves and a long sleeved wool jacket. A "Rising Out" annual gathering was held at the Chieftain's home of the Clan. The Chieftain's homes were smaller kingdoms, known as Fortified Manors. They did not live in castles. These gatherings provided creation of the Warriors.

The Irish Warrior, known as the Irish Kern, was a barefoot, light infantry soldier. They were fierce, quick and were 80% of the Irish Army. "The Kern loved knives," Professor Berg said. He said, "They used a knife called a Skean and a tossing spear called a Pike Pole, with a leather thong attached. The leather thong was used to gain distance. They used a Left Gauntlet for self-defense."

Professor Berg stated, "The heavy infantry were known as the Gallow Glass. They were about 20% of the Irish Army and their lineage was from the Vikings. They used the Gaelic Claymore Sword, the Sparth Ax and the Irish Cross Guard Sword." The details of design and metals used were discussed.

Professor Berg continued,"Very little is known about the Gaelic time period. Their history was not written down. What we do have are their drawings and artwork of: soldiers, combat and weapons.

Professor Berg dramatically talked about the Battle of the Tyrone Rebellion, The Nine Years War, The Irish Battle of the Three Armies (between: Ireland, England, and Spain) which led to the defeat of Ireland and the Gaelic Culture.

More questions and answers were welcomed, as the presentation concluded and members of the audience got to examine and handle replicas of the Irish Renaissance Warrior weaponry.

For more information on classes, please visit:

www.swordsmanshipmuseum.org

academy@swordsmanshipmuseum.org

In a St. Patrick's mood

Allegan County K-9 Advocate, Joey spread luck and joy around the Allegan County Offices this past St. Patrick's Day. Dressed up in a green top hat and a green bandana, Joey brought a pot of gold to all of the county administrators. Here he is pictured with Prosecuting Attorney, Mike Villar and County Clerk, Bob Genetski.

Photos from the Joey - Allegan County K-9 Advocate Facebook page.

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2025 Bracket Busters

FIRST ROUND 3/20-3/21	SECOND ROUND 3/22-3/23	SWEET 16 3/27-3/28	ELITE EIGHT 3/29-3/30	FINAL FOUR 4/5	FIRST FOUR	FINAL FOUR 4/5	ELITE EIGHT 3/29-3/30	SWEET 16 3/27-3/28	SECOND ROUND 3/22-3/23	FIRST ROUND 3/20-3/21
					16 Alabama St.(19-15)	11 Texas(19-15)				
					16 Saint Francis U(16-17)	11 Xavier(21-11)				
1 Auburn(28-5)										Duke(31-3) 1
8 Louisville(27-7)										Mississippi St.(21-12) 8
9 Creighton(24-10)										Baylor(19-14) 9
5 Michigan(25-9)										Oregon(24-9) 5
12 UC San Diego(30-4)										Liberty(28-6) 12
4 Texas A&M(22-10)										Arizona(22-12) 4
13 Yale(22-7)										Akron(28-6) 13
6 Ole Miss(22-11)										BYU(24-9) 6
3 Iowa St.(24-9)										VCU(28-6) 11
14 Lipscomb(25-9)										Wisconsin(26-9) 3
7 Marquette(23-10)										Montana(25-9) 14
10 New Mexico(26-7)										Saint Mary's(28-5) 7
2 Michigan St.(27-6)										Vanderbilt(20-12) 10
15 Bryant(23-11)										Alabama(25-8) 2
1 Florida(30-4)										Robert Morris(26-8) 15
16 Norfolk St.(24-10)										Houston(30-4) 1
8 UConn(23-10)										SIU Edwardsville(22-11) 16
9 Oklahoma(20-13)										Gonzaga(25-8) 8
5 Memphis(29-5)										Georgia(20-12) 9
12 Colorado St.(25-9)										Clemson(27-6) 5
4 Maryland(25-8)										McNeese(27-6) 12
13 Grand Canyon(26-7)										Purdue(22-11) 4
6 Missouri(22-11)										High Point(29-5) 13
11 Drake(30-3)										Illinois(21-12) 6
3 Texas Tech(25-8)										Kentucky(22-11) 3
14 UNC Wilmington(27-7)										Troy(23-10) 14
7 Kansas(21-12)										UCLA(22-10) 7
10 Arkansas(20-13)										Utah St.(26-7) 10
2 Saint John's(30-4)										Tennessee(27-7) 2
15 Omaha(22-12)										Wofford(19-15) 15

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP 04/07

SEMIFINALS SEMIFINALS

*On March 16, the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Committee will select eight teams to play in the First Four. Those games are scheduled for March 18 and 19 in Dayton. The four winning teams will advance to first-round sites to be determined by the committee during selection weekend. First-/second-round and regional sites will be placed in the bracket by the committee on March 16.
March 20 and 22 first-/second-round sites: Denver, Lexington, Providence, Wichita.
March 21 and 23 first-/second-round sites: Cleveland, Milwaukee, Raleigh, Seattle.
March 27 and 29 regional sites: Newark, San Francisco.
March 28 and 30 regional sites: Atlanta, Indianapolis.

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Parents say bullying continues to be issue in county schools

By Cindy Sasser

Parents in Allegan County are experiencing ongoing challenges as school authorities fail to address bullying effectively. Without proper support from schools, parents are left to navigate this troubling issue on their own, often feeling helpless and frustrated. The emotional toll on families can be immense, as they watch their kids suffer from anxiety, depression, and a decline in academic performance due to bullying.

Parents are forced to take on the role of both advocate and protector, seeking ways to ensure their child's safety and well-being. This often involves frequent meetings with school administrators, which, without proper support, may yield little to no results. Additionally, parents must educate themselves about bullying prevention strategies, legal rights, and mental health resources to support their kids.

The lack of cooperation from school authorities exacerbates the situation, leading to a breakdown in trust and communication between parents and the education system. As a result, parents may feel compelled to explore alternative schooling options, such as homeschooling or private education, to provide a safer environment for their kids.

Allegan County sources shared the following:

A longtime advocate said, "bullying is still very prevalent today in Allegan public schools; not only among students but also by staff. Periodically, I have parents as well as students reach out to me seeking advice and looking for someone to just listen. The students do not feel heard. They follow the steps and make the reports when bullying occurs; however the administration does nothing to rectify the bullying."

An official who communicated the concern stated, "it was going on the entire time I served on the Allegan Public Schools board of education."

Bullying takes many forms, including physical, verbal, and cyberbullying. Physical bullying involves hitting, pushing, and other forms of physical aggression, while verbal bullying includes name-calling, teasing, humiliation, and threats. Cyberbullying has become increasingly common with social media and digital communication, allowing bullies to harass their victims anonymously and relentlessly.

The effects of bullying on victims can be devastating and long-lasting. Kids who are bullied often suffer from a range of emotional and psychological issues, including anxiety, depression, loneliness, and low self-esteem. Changes in sleep and eating patterns can also result from being bullied. These issues can lead to further problems, such as academic underperformance, absenteeism, and in severe cases, self-harm or suicidal thoughts. The trauma inflicted by bullying can persist into adulthood, affecting their ability to form healthy relationships and succeed in their careers.

Additionally, it creates a toxic school environment that affects not only the victims but also the bystanders and even the offenders. Witnessing bullying can cause kids to feel unsafe and anxious, while those who engage in bullying behavior may develop antisocial tendencies and a lack of empathy. Some bystanding kids may even assist or reinforce the bullying while others may opt to comfort and defend the ones being bullied.

According to stopbullying.gov, kids who bully are more likely to use alcohol and drugs and engage in violence and criminal activity in adolescence and into adulthood. They can be at risk for emotional and psychological effects of their own dispensed harassment. Often kids who bully are being bullied; many unfortunate factors can play into what causes them to be this way.

It's important to note that not all types of aggressive behavior are considered "Bullying." Stopbullying.gov defines bullying on two points: "an aggressive behavior that includes an imbalance of power" and "repetition."

According to the Michigan State Board of Education Model Anti-Bullying Policy:

"Bullying" or "harassment" is any gesture or written, verbal, graphic, or physical act (including electronically transmitted acts – i.e., cyberbullying, through the use of internet, cell phone, computer, or wireless handheld device, currently in use or later developed and used by students) that is perceived as being dehumanizing, intimidating, hostile, humiliating, threatening, or otherwise likely to evoke fear of physical harm or emotional distress and may be motivated either by bias or prejudice based upon any actual or perceived characteristic, such as race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression; or a mental, physical, or sensory disability or impairment; or by any other distinguishing characteristic, or is based upon association with another person who has or is perceived to have any distinguishing characteristic. Bullying or harassment also include forms of retaliation against individuals who report or cooperate in an investigation under this policy. Such behaviors are considered to be bullying or harassment whether they take place on or off school property, at any school-sponsored function, or in a school vehicle or at any time or place where a child's imminent safety or over-all wellbeing may be at issue.

Consider another viewpoint: while it's easy to label these kids as "bullies" and treat them with disdain, we can hope that someone cares enough to implement the opportunities available to turn them around while it's still possible. They can learn to use their power in positive ways and become kind, upright students and members of society. Prevention is better than cure.

You can examine the Bullying Prevention Initiative (BPI) at www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/assistance-programs/cshcs/bullying-prevention-initiative.

Michigan has implemented statewide anti-bullying policies requiring all schools to develop and enforce strategies to prevent bullying. These policies mandate regular training for educators and staff on identifying and addressing bullying behaviors effectively. Schools are encouraged to foster a positive climate through programs that promote empathy, respect, and inclusion.

The state also provides counseling and mental health resources for affected kids. Collaboration with local law enforcement and community organizations ensures a coordinated response to severe bullying cases. Parental involvement is emphasized, providing platforms for reporting incidents and creating solutions.

Also visit the National Bullying Prevention Center; www.pacer.org/bullying/ for excellent information and resources for parents and for kids.

Education and Awareness is essential. Schools should implement educational programs that teach students about empathy, respect, and the importance of standing up against bullying. These programs can include classroom discussions, workshops, and assemblies featuring guest speakers who can share their experiences and insights.

Providing support for victims of bullying is important to help them cope with the emotional and psychological impact of their experiences. Schools should offer counseling services and create safe spaces where students can seek help and support. Peer support groups can also be effective in providing a sense of community and understanding for those who have been bullied.

Encouraging bystanders to intervene and report bullying incidents can significantly reduce the prevalence of bullying. Often they want to help but don't know what to do. Schools should teach students how to stand up for their peers safely and effectively and create a culture where reporting bullying is seen as a responsible and courageous action.

Schools should encourage open communication between students, parents, and teachers, and provide resources and training for parents to recognize the signs of bullying and support their kids.

With all these opportunities and resources available, it brings us to the elephant in the room: WHY aren't teachers and school officials adequately addressing bullying in their schools? Some sources say that teachers just don't have the time. Their roles to impart academically are just too burdened already. Another reason given, contrary to everything above, is that they lack resources or don't have the proper training. Some say teachers don't have support from administration. And the worst, highly likely reason is unevolved views of bullying. Pacer.org lists some very unfortunate "Common Misconceptions about Bullying" such as "bullying is a natural part of childhood," "words will never hurt you," and "bullying will make kids tougher" just to name a few.

The bottom line is that the well-being of our kids is paramount; it's important for parents to remain persistent and advocate fiercely for their child, ensuring that the bullying is addressed adequately and their child feels safe and supported.

Parents whose kids are experiencing bullying can undertake several proactive steps to address the issue. The initial step is to maintain open communication with their child, listening empathetically and validating their feelings, which can provide significant emotional support. Documenting specific incidents of bullying, including dates, times, locations, and involved individuals, is essential for formal reporting.

Parents should promptly contact the child's teacher and school administration to discuss the situation. Schools in Allegan County are expected to have protocols for addressing bullying, and parents can request a meeting to develop a plan ensuring their child's safety. This plan may include increased supervision, schedule changes, or counseling services.

Engaging with the school's guidance counselor can also be beneficial as they can offer resources and strategies to help the child cope with the emotional impact of bullying.

Parents should expect the school to take the matter seriously and work towards a resolution. However, addressing bullying is often a prolonged process, and ongoing communication with the school is imperative.

If school authorities fail to address the issue adequately, parents can escalate the matter by contacting higher-level school district officials or the Michigan Department of Education to report unresolved bullying incidents. Documenting all interactions and incidents thoroughly is vital for formal complaints. Additionally, parents may seek assistance from local advocacy groups specializing in bullying prevention.

Legal recourse is also an option; parents can consult with an attorney to explore potential actions against the school for neglecting its duty to ensure a safe environment. Engaging with local law enforcement might be necessary in severe cases.

A prudent answer when asked the best way to handle the bullying child was, "The students need to have major consequences from their actions. Many do not get suspended and even when they do, they come back to school and reoffend over and over again. These kids should be required to seek counseling. The parents should be mandated by the school to seek counseling for the kids if it's not done through the school counselors. The parents and schools need to be working together to adjust the child's behavior."

Quick facts and stats by the CDC as of October 28th, 2024:

Bullying is an adverse childhood experience that is widespread in the United States. Bullying harms all youth involved including those who are bullied, those who bully others, and bystanders who witness it.

Bullying is common. About one in five high school students reported being bullied on school property in the past year. More than one in six high school students reported being bullied electronically in the past year including through texting and social media.

Some youth experience bullying more than others. Female students were more likely than male students to experience bullying, both on school property and electronically.

Additionally, Asian students and Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander students were less likely than Hispanic, White, and Multiracial students to be bullied at school. Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander students were less likely than students from most other racial and ethnic groups to be electronically bullied.

Bullying is a frequent discipline problem. A national survey found that 28% of middle schools, 15% of high schools, and 10% of elementary schools reported the occurrence of bullying at school at least once a week. About 37% of middle schools reported the occurrence of cyberbullying at least once a week, followed by 25% of high schools and 6% of elementary schools.

PUBLIC NOTICE
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
2025 GRAND REGION HERBICIDE PROGRAM

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) hereby provides notice to the public, including property owners adjacent to state highways, of the 2025 Herbicide Application Program treatments for roadside rights of way within Mason, Lake, Osceola, Oceana, Newaygo, Mecosta, Muskegon, Montcalm, Ottawa, Kent, Ionia, Allegan, and Barry counties.

SCHEDULED DATES OF APPLICATION:
Applications will take place between April 1, 2025, and December 1, 2025.

HERBICIDES/LOCATIONS:
Non-Selective Applications: (guardrail, pavement/shoulder cracks and edges, barrier walls, concrete bridge slopes, invasive plants) ANY INDIVIDUAL OR COMBINATIONS OF THE HERBICIDES LISTED BELOW:
Roundup Pro Concentrate (Glyphosate), **Method 240SL** (Aminocyclopyrachlor), **Milestone** (Aminopyralid), **Escort XP** (Metsulfuron Methyl), **Esplanade 200 SC** (Indaziflam), **Polaris** (Isopropylamine Salt of Imazapyr), **Telar XP** (Chlorsulfuron) **Aquamaster/Roundup Custom** (Glyphosate).

Selective Applications: (broadleaf weeds in turf areas, brush control, plant growth regulator, invasive plants) ANY INDIVIDUAL OR COMBINATIONS OF THE HERBICIDES LISTED BELOW:
Milestone (Aminopyralid), **Escort XP** (Metsulfuron Methyl), **Telar XP** (Chlorsulfuron), **Vastlan** (Triclopyr Choline, Acetic Acid, Choline Salt), **Garlon 4 Ultra** (Triclopyr-2-Butoxyethyl Ester), **Plateau** (Imazapic), **Method 240SL** (Aminocyclopyrachlor), **TerraVue** (Aminopyralid, Florpyrauxifen-Benzyl).

METHOD OF APPLICATION:
All applications will be ground or aerial applied by vehicular-mounted fixed boom or hand spray gun equipment. The herbicides will be tank-mixed or injected for each application.

RE-ENTRY RESTRICTIONS:
Do not enter treated areas until the spray has dried.

CONTACT:
All applications will be made by certified pesticide applicators. For further information, contact:

Tom Kitcey, Resource Specialist
Michigan Department of Transportation
1420 Front Ave., N.W.
Grand Rapids, MI 49504
616-558-8084

This notice is published per Regulation 637 Act No. 451, Public Acts of 1994, as amended.

Driver's License Restoration | Drunk Driving & Criminal Defense
It's a Process... We Can Help! | "Friends... Don't Let Friends Plead Guilty!"
Law Office of
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269.355.1011

CAAC's Walk 4 Warmth steps off to meet resident needs

By Gari Voss

Community Action of Allegan County (CAAC) invites everyone to participate by walking in and/or donating to the March 22, 2025, Walk 4 Warmth. This Charity Walk helps replenish the coffer to address crisis utility assistance across Allegan County.

To donate or pre-register for the event, go to https://p2p.onecause.com/walk4warmth25. Those who register by March 6th will receive a T-shirt and/or Race Pack. Station Sponsors are asked to make swag and monetary donations.

On March 22nd, families, groups and individuals will gather at the Allegan Sports Complex, 1451 29th St., Allegan at 9am. The 5K course is family friendly with places to rest and take breaks or use the facilities. The Race Pack will allow participants to collect SWAG from stations along the path.

Community Action of Allegan County is celebrating their 60th year of responding to the needs of Allegan County residents who are underserved. In addition to assisting residents with basic needs related to food and shelter, CAAC houses early childhood services. During March, CAAC sends a huge thank you to Waanders Concrete Co for highlighting literacy during March is Reading Month. That support will assist the Early Education programs in extending extra assistance to preschoolers across the county.

Other activities organized by CAAC:

Spring Playgroups will meet on March 4th at the North Ward Elementary Gym from 5-6pm and on March 7th at the Allegan District Library from 1-2pm. The activities will focus on fruits and vegetables with planting seeds and sorting fruits & vegetables. Participants will receive a free book.

Enroll for Preschool 2025-26 groups 0-5 year olds. These programs include Head Start, Early Head Start, Center Based classes, Home Based classes, and the Prenatal Program. Free preschool centers are located in Martin, Otsego, Plainwell, Allegan, Fennville, Wayland, Pullman and Dorr.

Diaper Bank for those with income qualifications will be March 6th,10th, 20th and 24th.

Weatherization Assistance & Water Plumbing Repair can help in reducing energy costs.

Charity events and fundraisers are extremely important to Community Action's ability to meet the needs of residents in Allegan County. Many programs rely on federal funding from federal departments that have been cut back or are in danger of being closed.

Future for CAAC services:

CAAC shared, "Closing the Department of Education and decreasing funds to Allegan County school districts could result in the closure of 11 Head Start classrooms and limit services to eligible children and families. Dismantling the Department of Education could also have a negative impact on the Head Start program's ability to partner with districts in providing services to an estimated 23% of kids with special needs.

"Allegan County School Districts and the Department of Education are critical Head Start partners and champions, in enforcing federal statutes prohibiting discrimination, and ensuring that every student has access to an education that will help them reach their full potential. Demolishing the Department of Education means limiting programs that feed, educate, and protect our most vulnerable and underserved students."

The Walk 4 Warmth and other fundraisers done by Community Action of Allegan County are extremely important for them to continue meeting needs across Allegan County.

ALLEGAN AREA EDUCATIONAL SERVICE AGENCY
BOARD OF EDUCATION
NOTICE OF BIENNIAL ELECTION

Please take notice that a meeting of the Allegan Area Educational Service Agency (AAESA) will be held on Monday, June 2, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the AAESA Education Service Center, 310 Thomas Street, Allegan, Michigan.

The purpose of the meeting shall be to elect one (1) member to the Board of Education of the AAESA. The vacancy will be for a term of six (6) years expiring on June 30, 2031.

Individuals interested in this position may obtain information and nominating petitions from the Allegan County Clerk's office at 113 Chestnut St., Allegan, MI or by calling (269) 673-0450. Office hours are Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. All candidates must be registered voters within the Allegan Area ESA district. Candidates must file an Affidavit of Identity along with either petition signatures or a $100 nonrefundable filing fee with the county clerk no later Monday, May 5, 2025.

One voting representative shall be designated by the Board of Education of each constituent school district as the voting delegate to said meeting.

Mary Howard, Secretary
Allegan Area Educational Service Agency
Board of Education

Abandoned Wells
Got one?

The Allegan Wellhead Protection Program is looking for abandoned, unplugged wells.

Abandoned, unused, unplugged wells threaten groundwater resources and public health. Contaminants from the surface such as fertilizers, pesticides or other run off water, can easily move downward through the unsealed, abandoned well and enter the aquifer. These contaminants may end up in your drinking water well, your neighbors well or the local community drinking water wells.

The City of Allegan would like to identify any abandoned, unplugged wells in and around its wellhead protection zone and explore having them plugged. The zone extends east from the city of Allegan along the north side of M-222 east to 24th St.

If you are the owner of the abandoned, unplugged well and would like assistance in plugging the well. Please contact Allegan Water Utilities at 269-686-1117 or by emailing to Doug Sweeris at dsweeris@cityofallegan.org

ALLEGAN COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
COUNTY LOCAL HOT MIX ASPHALT PAVING

Sealed bids will be received by the Allegan County Road Commission at their office at 1308 Lincoln Road (M-89), Allegan, Michigan until 11:00 A.M., Wednesday, March 26th, 2025, and at such time be publicly opened and read aloud for the following:

I. HOT MIX ASPHALT PAVEMENT

Hot Mix Asphalt paving (Michigan Department of Transportation Specification: 4EL, 4EML, 5EL, 36A) in Allegan, Dorr, Fillmore, Ganges, Gun Plain, Heath, Laketown, Leighton, Martin, Monterey, Otsego, Overisel, Saugatuck, Trowbridge, and Watson/Hopkins.

Complete specifications and bid forms are available at the Road Commission office and the Road Commission website www.alleganroads.org under the Projects link.

Bidders must be prequalified by the Michigan Department of Transportation to perform Paving Construction.

All bids must be submitted on forms furnished by the Road Commission and sealed in envelopes with the name and address of the bidder, and the item bid upon clearly marked thereon.

BID DEPOSIT of at least 5% of the bid amount will be required for each project bid upon. A single bid check may be submitted to cover all projects bid. The Bid Deposit may be in the form of Certified Check, Cashier's Check, or Bid Bond.

The Commission reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive minor technicalities, and to accept the bid that is deemed to be in the best interest of the County of Allegan.

BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS
OF ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN

Larry Brown, Chairman
Rick Cain, Vice-Chairman
Harold Hamlin, Member

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Allegan

ALLEGAN COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids will be received by the Allegan County Road Commission (ACRC) at their office at 1308 Lincoln Road (M 89), Allegan, Michigan until 11:00 a.m., Wednesday, March 26, 2025, and at such time be publicly opened and read aloud for the following:

BUILDING CLEANING SERVICES

Complete specifications and bid forms are available at the ACRC office and on our website at www.alleganroads.org under Materials Bids.

All bids must be submitted on forms furnished by the ACRC and sealed in envelopes with the name and address of the bidder, and the item bid upon clearly marked thereon.

No bid deposit will be required.

The ACRC reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive minor technicalities, and to accept the bid that is deemed to be in the best interest of the County of Allegan.

BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS
OF ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN

Larry Brown, Chairman
Rick Cain, Vice-Chairman
Harold Hamlin, Commissioner

ALLEGAN COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids will be received by the Allegan County Road Commission (ACRC) at their office at 1308 Lincoln Road (M 89), Allegan, Michigan until 11:00 a.m., Wednesday, March 26, 2025, and at such time be publicly opened and read aloud for the following:

LAWN MOWING SERVICES

Complete specifications and bid forms are available at the ACRC office and on our website at www.alleganroads.org under Materials Bids.

All bids must be submitted on forms furnished by the ACRC and sealed in envelopes with the name and address of the bidder, and the item bid upon clearly marked thereon.

No bid deposit will be required.

The ACRC reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive minor technicalities, and to accept the bid that is deemed to be in the best interest of the County of Allegan.

BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS
OF ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN

Larry Brown, Chairman
Rick Cain, Vice-Chairman
Harold Hamlin, Commissioner

NOTICE
OF ORDINANCE ADOPTION
CITY OF WAYLAND
ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN

TO: THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE CITY OF WAYLAND, ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN, AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the following Ordinance was adopted by the Wayland City Council at a regular meeting held March 17, 2025.

ORDINANCE NO. 279: Amend the City of Wayland Purchasing and Sale of City Real and Personal Property

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the full text of the City of Wayland Ordinance 279 is available at City Hall, 103 S. Main Street, during normal business hours, or upon request from the Wayland Interim Deputy Clerk.

Ann McInerney, Interim Deputy Clerk
CITY OF WAYLAND
103 S. MAIN STREET, WAYLAND MI 49348
269-792-2265

Let's not spoil special relationship with Canada

MIKE'S MUSINGS

MIKE WILCOX
■ PUBLISHER ■

President Trump likes to say his favorite word is "tariff." He hopes to use the word to force corporations to locale in the United States, instead of other countries where they have tax and trade advantages. More corporations mean more factories which in turn, Trump believes, will provide more jobs, cut the cost of consumer goods, thus put more money in the pockets of taxpayers.

I can't argue with increased tariffs being placed on China, India and the like, where their tariffs on American goods, pretty much prohibit us from selling a lot of goods in those countries. Ditto Europe where big ticket items like BMW, Audi, Mercedes Benz etc are sold by the millions here, but nary a GM or Ford product can be found on European roads because of high tariffs.

However, in the case of our good neighbors and allies, Canada and Mexico, I am not in favor of imposing the suggested 25 or 50 percent tariffs Trump is threatening to impose. For decades, in the case of Canade, the U.S. has maintained a deeply integrated economic relationship, one that has benefited consumers in both nations.

Part of that integration has been products produced by the thousands of miles of forests in Canada. Much of our lumber comes from those forests. Additionally, newsprint which is used by every newspaper printed in the U.S. comes from paper mills that are only located in Canada.

In the case of our newspapers, printing is close to 25% of our total costs. It is our biggest expense item- more than payroll. Raw materials, paper and ink, make up approximately 60% of all printing costs. A 25 or 50 percent tariff would add another cost to newspapers, particularly weekly, that many won't be able to absorb.

Paul Deegan, CEO of News Media, says it best. "A historic 140-year-old newspaper in New York recently closed, and others are struggling with increased expenses for essential materials like ink, plates and paper. These issues might not always make front-page headlines, but the are having a real impact on the viability of the newspaper industry."

He added, "These trade barriers are not only making it harder for newspapers to survive, but they are also straining the long-standing economic interdependence between the two nations. The U.S. has more significant trade issues with countries like China, Mexico and Germany. Canada has been caught in the middle."

In Michigan we have always enjoyed a terrific relationship with Canada. I know it's different now but as youth we crossed the border often to visit Windsor. Going through the tunnel was always a special treat. My uncle lived in Sarnia, and we made several trips across the Bluewater Bridge. It was like going to Ohio or Indiana, just as frequent and Canadian people and businesses always welcomed us with open arms.

I would hate to see those strong ties between Michigan and Ontario be broker or even strained. As Deegan said, "We have been friends forever, and we need to get back to that relationship. We need to make sure the rhetoric is dialed back."

I couldn't agree more.

Life as Performance Art

G CORWIN STOPPEL

Very few of us hold politicians and party politics in high esteem, and probably for good reason. Perhaps it is because they are very different from the rest of us. The campaign seasons are growing longer and more expensive; the negativity between the two major parties is increasingly fierce; and we are certain there are far too many shady deals made in backrooms. It's problematic that politicians rarely praise those from other parties, and "compromise" has become undesirable.

If anyone doubts the unsavory reputation of politics and political leaders, just think back to the latest presidential election. From start to finish, it was brutal, with the persistent bombardment of negative campaign advertisements making it all the worse. Worse, we know that the cycle will start long before the 2026 elections. I am certain the news and social media will poke all of the candidates, the better to stir things up and get a story.

Little wonder that we look to the distant past, sigh in despair, and wish everyone would work to get along like they did in days of yore, and we think of them as the good old days. Next year, in addition to the national elections, our country will also be celebrating a milestone birthday, our two hundred fiftieth. In the coming months we will devote an increasing amount of time looking to our past, the better to understand where we are today.

In many ways, this celebration begins on April 19th of this year, the morning after the fabled Midnight Ride of Paul Revere the battle of Concord and Lexington between Patriots and Loyalists, and the Shot Heard Round the World. With that in mind, the Sons of the American Revolution have been producing short videos and podcasts about the politicians of this era. Suffice it to note it is not the romantic history of Longfellow's poem.

For those of us who think of the heady years of the founding of this country, we are often drawn to some of the myths far more than the harsher realities. Very simply, the political climate of colonial America was as toxic as it is today. Joseph Ellis book, Founding Brothers, would have us believe that Washington, Adams, Jefferson, Hamilton, and others got a long like a bunch of Episcopal choir boys having tea with their bishop. That is a bunch of malarkey with a capitol "M".

The real story is that they argued and debated almost every important and unimportant point in trying to work with the British government. Then, just as now, they allowed themselves to be distracted. Some of them thought compromise with London was a good idea; others believed the only way to resolve the differences was a declaration of war. And when they were not opposing the British, they were at each other's throats over slavery, the economy, and who should be leading the military.

Franklin, Adams, and Jefferson were assigned the job of writing what became our Declaration of Independence. They focused on the job but quickly grew to despise each other. Adams despised Jefferson, Jefferson did not like Franklin, and Franklin thought Adams was a brilliant but sour old puritan. Other delegates to the Continental Congress turned on Caesar Romney of Delaware, claiming that his health (he had cancer of the jaw) prohibited him from carrying his share of the workload, and that he drank too much. Apparently, others did, too, because the biggest expense of the delegates was their bar bill.

Despite the high esteem that they would eventually be held, not all of them were impressed with George Washington, and several times, there were attempts to demote and replace him. Some of his own generals attempted to undermine him so they could get the job. Benedict Arnold was so frustrated he became a traitor and switched sides to join the British. Burr hated Hamilton, and as we remember from our history classes, later kill him in a duel. Somehow, they muddled through.

Skip ahead a few years to the Constitutional Convention of 1787. The loose Confederation of States was not working, and eventually there was a consensus the country needed a strong central government. Delegates worked at it, but they fought each other with vehemence as they quite literally invented a new form of government.

They could be rude and very petty. Jefferson had designed and built the magnificent Monticello for his home in Virginia. Just down the hill from him, James Madison owned land and wanted to build his home, Montpelier. Jefferson had earned a reputation as an architect, so Madison asked for some help with the plans. That must have been a surprise because Jefferson and Madison were political rivals. However, Jefferson got his cheap revenge. A doorway in Montpelier facing Jefferson's house was exceptionally low, so that Madison had to bow down to get through without bumping his head. The insult was not lost on James and Dolly, with Jefferson enjoyed the drama he had created.

As for Washington, once he was elected President, he started acquiring enemies. Several members of his cabinet thought he was too stiff, formal, and imperialistic. They were horrified when he raised a regiment to march on western New York during the Whiskey Rebellion. By the second term, his detractors were complaining that he was too old and unfocused to hold office.

Washington retired after two terms, and John Adams became the second President, with Thomas Jefferson as the VP. The two men hated each other, and by the time Jefferson defeated Adams four years later, the two men were not speaking to each other. In fact, Adams was such a sore loser that he and Mrs. A left the White House in the middle of the night to avoid seeing Jefferson take the Oath of Office. Years passed before they exchanged letters.

All of this jogging around the proverbial mulberry bush is to point out that in two hundred fifty years, nothing has really changed. When we go from one President and legislative branch to the next, we see an endless round of squabbles and fights and duplicity. Only the names and topics seem to change.

As for the accusation that a president is usurping too much power, no one gave the Senate and House, as well as the Democrats, more anxiety that Theodore Roosevelt. When Congress refused to protect wild life areas all across the country, TR outmaneuvered them by signing one Executive Order after another to create wildlife preserves from coast to coast..

Fortunately, there have been brief moments where there is a compromise. Speaker of the House Sam Rayburn accomplished it when he invited Senators Dirksen and Lyndon Johnson to stop by his back room, the Board of Education, as he called it to share a bottle of prime sipping whiskey. Mr. Sam would inform the two senators and a few members of the House after they had consumed some alcohol. He told them to quit fighting and do something productive for the good of the nation. Often as not, they compromised and the country moved forward.

There is a take home lesson for all of us in our long history of politicians and their wrangling. As long as they were arguing or even raising their voices, there was conversation. Maybe it was not easy or nice, and sometimes voices were raised, but it was conversation, and that kept the hope alive that our country would survive. Survival and debate was the important thing. Democracy is based on it, whereas dictatorships are based on fearful silence. Let today's crop of office holders shout and sputter away, inventing some creative insults, and more. It is a good thing. There is still hope for the future of our country.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Reader questions BOC about $12k to media source

Dear Editor:

Hello, I recently submitted the following question to our Board of Commissioners. At a time when we are all watching spending, this does not make sense to me.

Hello Commissioners, I have a question regarding the use of an outside media source, namely "second wave media" for the county's news source from the web page. I learned of this after watching the BOC meeting this morning. I live in the furthest northeast corner of Allegan County, a very rural area. Because of that, we subscribe to the Allegan County News both print and digital. This subscription costs us $50 per year.

I am not comprehending why you are paying a fee of $12k a year to use this outside media source Vs working with the Allegan County News and linking to their digital format to the county web page. How do you justify this expenditure when most people receive the Allegan County News? Why would you not support local media business?

I would like to see that revisited please. I look forward to your reply. Thank you very much.

Respectfully,
Lori Buchanan

Write leaders to stand up for allies

Dear Editor:

We the People are organizing around town hall meetings and capitol buildings across the country to question our representatives who respect their constituents enough to take the time to show up, unlike ours, Rep. Huizenga, who is annoyed that we even have the audacity to call him. Instead, he appears to blindly vote with his party to support the overwhelmingly rich and powerful who–openly, not deceptively–want to strip away our rights, steal our assets, and sell out to our adversaries while they stab our allies in the back.

This faction that now controls all branches of the federal government is NOT the Republican party that I have been told so many good things about.

Now, since I was a teenager, the curriculum crafted by an earlier generation made me read, listen to lectures, act out scenes, and watch videos about the Holocaust and rise of fascism in Germany. It was supposed to PREVENT this tyranny, train us to recognize it and fight back, not to just watch it happen to us. I want a chance to tell our children a story about how we united to STOP fascism, not how we stood idly by while a clique of greedy, insolent bullies sparked WWIII and bankrupted the wealthiest nation in the world. Please, help me to help save our nation from the evil my grandfather thought we had defeated. Be reminded that when the people around you lose their rights, you're quietly losing yours as well.

So, I want you the readers to please do me a favor. Please, make time to write and call Huizenga, Slotkin, Peters, and Whitmer. They need to hear that now is not the time for decorum, traditional politics or business as usual. Tell them you want them to stand up, to FIGHT for the relationships around the world that many fought and died for over the last 249 years that are now being torn apart–just like our economy and our rights. Then, as we stand our ground, take care to listen to the people around us. See for yourself the lives of the people in our community and support them where you can. We need everyone to be at our strongest–United. Together we will be heard.

And to Mr. Wilcox: my greatest condolences for the loss of your friend.

Ray Frazee

Beck's Plan for refunding the Social Security Trust Fund

Dear Editor:

In recent days we have heard President Trump say he was going to remove taxes on social security payments. I doubt this will happen. If it does not happen, I propose the following to further fund the Social Security Trust Fund.

All taxes paid on social security payments are presently paid to the IRS and go into the giant general fund of the U.S. government.

I propose all taxes paid on social security payments be returned to the Social Security Trust Fund. Those dollars came from the Trust Fund and those dollars should be returned to the Trust Fund.

This would require a very simple addition to tax forms to define dollars received in the social security payment and the highest applicable tax rate to be applied to those payments.

This simple procedure would return millions of dollars to the Social Security Trust Fund that were paid out of the Trust Fund. It would make the Trust fund solvent for many more years and more importantly do so with no new or additional taxes on wage earners.

To the readers of this newspaper. If you agree to this simple, common sense proposal for REFUNDING the Social Security Trust Fund, contact your legislator and send him a copy of this proposal and encourage them to use Beck's plan for REFUNDING the Trust Fund.

Thank You for your consideration,

Robert G Beck
Hopkins, MI

Do the Local Thing

Shopping in town helps local shops, cafes and restaurants, and the business owners who make them unique! When you shop local the whole community benefits.

ShopLocal

The Allegan COUNTY NEWS

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the UE Otsego & Plainwell UNION ENTERPRISE

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MPA MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION

Member

ADVERTISING DEADLINES
4 P.M. Monday

The Allegan County News and Union Enterprise will in no case be responsible for typographical or other errors, but will reprint that part of an advertisement in which a typographical error occurs. The publisher reserves the right to reject or cancel any material at any time. The right is reserved to reject, omit or edit any material offered for publication.

Obituaries

Mary Ann (Conner) Ferris, 91

Mary Ann (Conner) Ferris, affectionately known as MaryAnn, passed away peacefully at home of natural causes in Allegan, Michigan, on March 12, 2025. Born on September 1, 1933, in Grand Rapids, Michigan, to her late parents Edward and Inez (Rumsey) Conner, MaryAnn's journey through life was one of devotion, service, and joy, which touched the hearts of all who knew her. After graduating from Rockford Public Schools, she would marry Volney Dean Ferris and share over 27 years of marriage before Volney's early passing in 1980. MaryAnn embarked on a career that would span three decades, retiring as the esteemed Food Service Director of the Allegan Public Schools. Her commitment to nurturing others extended beyond her professional role, as she served as a Cub Scout Leader, a 4H Leader, and a lifetime member of the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd. MaryAnn's faith was a cornerstone of her life, and she could often be found at the Allegan County Fair, sharing her famous pies, chilis, and BBQ from the Church booth. She found

Mary Ann Ferris

joy in cooking for large family gatherings, baking delicious desserts, and tending to her beautiful garden. Her cherished dogs, aka "Babies," were a source of constant companionship and happiness. She was an avid sports fan and spent many hours tracking the latest news and watching her beloved Michigan State University Spartans, Detroit Lions and Detroit Tigers. MaryAnn's presence was a warm embrace, followed with her favorite color purple being a symbol of her faith and love she shared with her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

She is survived by her children, David (Lynda) Ferris, Anne (Dan) Brenner, and Doug (Stacy) Ferris; grandchildren, Adam (Ashley) Ferris, Joshua (Kim) Ferris, Travis (Andrea) Lambert, Drew (Jessie) Lambert, Brandon (Sarah) Ferris, Jessica (Lars) Ruser, Jacob Brenner, Conner (Hannah) Ferris, and Lauren Ferris, as well as many adored great-grandchildren.

Preceding her in death were her parents, Edward and Inez (Rumsey) Conner; husband, Volney Dean Ferris; son, Dean Ferris; brother, Gerald Conner; and her grandson, Michael Ferris. Each of them held a special place in her heart, and her reunion with them is a comfort to those she leaves behind.

The church service will be on Friday, March 21st at 11 am at the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd located at 101 North Walnut Street, Allegan, MI.

In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to Wings of Hope Hospice 530 Linn Street, Allegan, MI 49010, or the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd 101 North Walnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010.

Joan Riksen, 85

Joan Riksen, 85, ran into the arms of Jesus on March 13, 2025. She was born in Hopkins, Michigan on July 26, 1939 to Richard and Alice (Rose) Thompson. She graduated from Hopkins High School in 1957. She married Bill Riksen on June 7, 1958.

Joan was a loving, caring, and devoted wife, mother, grandma, sister, and friend. She enjoyed having her family around and always had their favorite snacks on hand.

Joan enjoyed cooking, baking, and sewing. She catered many weddings, dinners, and other events. She ran the restaurant at the Hopkins Livestock Yards for several years. All her food and baked goods were made from scratch. She enjoyed making quilts with her mom and later with her sister, Peggy, and friend, Alice Brenner.

Joan was an active member of Hopkins Community Church.

Joan is survived by her husband of 66 years, Bill:

Joan Riksen

daughters Terri Coffindaffer of Hopkins, Renee and Mike Gorman of Holland, and Patty and Todd McNeill of Caledonia; grandchildren Dustin Coffindaffer, Abbey (Nathan) Price, Emily (Matthew) Pyle, Casey McNeill, Tommy McNeill, Sammy McNeill, and Eliza McNeill; great grandchildren Hadessah and Solomon Price; sisters Marg (Ike) Smith, Kay (Richard) Petersen, and Denise Thompson; brother in law Russ Pogodzinski, and sister in law Janice DeVries.

She was preceded in death by her parents, parents in law Willis and Florence Riksen; siblings Peggy (Pete) Arnsman, Jerry (Judy) Thompson, Hannah Pogodzinski, Junior Thompson; sister in law Kay (Gordie) Raymond and son in law Tom Coffindaffer.

A visitation will take place on March 22, 2025 at 10:00am at Hopkins Community Church, 2142 128th Ave, Hopkins, Michigan, with a Celebration of Life service at 11:30am. A lunch with a time of fellowship will follow the service.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made to Hopkins Community Church, 2142 128th Ave, Hopkins, Michigan 49328 or Faith Hospice 8214 Pfeiffer Farms Dr SW, Byron Center, Michigan 49315

The family would like to give a special thanks to Faith Hospice for the care and support they gave to Joan and our family.

Harry Johnson, 87

Harry Johnson age 87 of Paris, TN, died Saturday, March 15, 2025, at the St. Thomas Hospital West in Nashville, TN.

Harry worked for 40 years as a butcher before he retired. After retirement, he spent several years mowing at his brother's golf course in Michigan. He loved to hunt, fish, camp, and ride horses. Harry was an avid fan of all the Detroit sports teams. He enjoyed watching basketball, westerns, was a member of Faxon Baptist Church, and a United States Army Veteran.

Harry was preceded in death by his wife Marilyn Johnson.

He was born October 18, 1937, in Bloomingdale, Michigan, to the late Verlin Johnson and the late Eva Burke Johnson.

Survivors include his children, Blithe (Alan) Cummings of Casper,

Harry Johnson

WY, Justin (Hope) Johnson of Paris, TN, Dean (Shara) Johnson of San Antonio, TX, Melissa (Kirk) Nergard, and Alan Merritt II; two brothers, Herb Johnson and Ken (Marsha) Johnson, both of Bloomingdale, MI; seven grandchildren, Paisley Johnson, Hadley Johnson, Emily Cummings, Sean (Retha) Cummings, Joshua Johnson, Caitlyn Johnson, and Connor Johnson; and one great granddaughter, Adeline Cummings.

In addition to his wife and parents, he was also preceded in death by a brother Jim Johnson.

Ridgeway Funeral Home 201 Dunlap St., P.O. Box 788, Paris, TN 38242 will be handling the arrangements. Memorial visitation will be held Saturday, March 29, 2025, at 10:00 am at Faxon Baptist Church 132 Pine Grove Road, Big Sandy, TN 38221, with a Memorial Service to follow at 11:00 am at Faxon Baptist Church with Randy Miller officiating.

In lieu of flowers, the family has asked for memorials to be made to any organization that helps Alzheimer's patients or funds Alzheimer's research.

Justin S. Woodhams, 46

Justin S. Woodhams passed away suddenly on March 5, 2025 at home. He was born January 15, 1979 to Patricia Hartman and Ben Woodhams. He was a loving son, father, brother, and nephew. He is survived by his loving wife of 17 years, LIsa, his children: Jacob Jackson, Joshua Jackson, Jessica (Dylan) McFarlen, Andrew, a granddaughter, step-mother Susie Woodhams, siblings Jennifer (Mark) Haveman,

Rebecca (Corey) Johnson, Kelly (Nick) Short, Brandy (Will) Salters, Jim (Lisa) Hartman, Vicki Hainer, many aunts, uncles, cousins, and extended family. He is preceded in death by his grandparents, step-father James Hartman, sister-in- law, and infant son.

There will be a private graveside service at a later date, A memorial luncheon will be held on May 3, 2025 at 1 pm at the Trowbridge Township Hall. In lieu of flowers you may make donations to Camp Kidwell in his name.

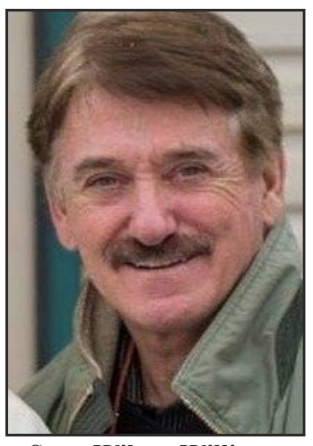
Scott Wilson Williams, 71

Scott Wilson Williams was a man who listened not only to the whisper of the wind but also to the wisdom it carried. He spent his life chasing adventure—soaring from cliff tops, sailing across waves, descending mountains, and cherishing his four beautiful children.

A man of remarkable achievements, Scott pioneered the first bamboo hang gliders to take flight, won windsurfing races across the United States, and helped carve the first turns in snowboarding history alongside Burton Snowboards. He was fearless in pushing the boundaries of possibility. A self-taught musician and a relentless explorer of the unknown, he leaves behind a legacy of inspiration for all who knew and loved him.

Born on July 25, 1953, in Fort Benning, Georgia, Scott was the beloved son of the late Charles and Gloria Williams. He now joins his parents, his brother Walter Williams, his niece Halie Williams, and his nephew Mattox Williams in the glory of God's presence.

Scott is survived by his five children: Charlie, Max, Cecilia, and Caroline Williams; and Trevor Crain; his siblings



Scott Wilson Williams

Skip, Timmy, Eddie, and Wendy Williams; and his seven grandchildren: David, Nathan, Tres, Elias, Charlize, Hazel and Harlo.

Scott's childhood was shaped by the "Tree Top Lodge," the family's cherished project on the shores of Lake Macatawa. Despite hardships, hope was always close, lifting the family into brighter times. Summers were spent breaking sailing records at the Macatawa Bay Yacht Club alongside his siblings. After graduating from Holland High School, Scott followed his dreams westward, where he met his wife, Valerie Zoellner, and welcomed his four children—each born in a different state, a testament to his adventurous spirit.

A master craftsman, Scott built homes throughout West Michigan with his brother Skippy before discovering his passion for ceramic tile, leading him to establish his own business, "The Tile Guy." Later in life, he rekindled his love for skiing, earning a PSIA Level 3 certification and teaching others the art of alpine skiing. He was also a devoted pickleball player, competing for nearly a decade in the Saugatuck/Douglas community.

Scott had an enduring love for storytelling, the written word, the beat of the drums, and the thrill of truly living. He taught his children to push past life's boundaries, embrace the unexpected, and find joy even in the darkest moments. His light, laughter, and adventurous spirit will be deeply missed.

Arrangements are by Dykstra Funeral Homes-Saugatuck Chapel. Cremation will take place and no services are planned at this time. To sign an on-line registry or leave a memory please visit www.dykstrafuneralhome.com

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Plainwell robotics team receives Inspire Award

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

GRANDVILLE—At each VEX robotics tournament, the Inspire Award is given to a team that displays "passion for the competition and positivity at the event."

The recipient of the Inspire Award among elementary schools at the VEX IQ Tournament of Champions in Grandville on Saturday, March 15, was none other than Girls with Gears from Plainwell's Starr Elementary.

In addition to passion and positively, the other criteria for the Inspire Award are:

* Team exhibits integrity and goodwill toward other teams, coaches, and event staff.

* Team overcomes an obstacle or challenge or achieves a goal or special accomplishment at the event.

* Team Interview demonstrates effective communication skills, teamwork, professionalism, and a student-centered ethos.

Members of Girls with Gears are Bridget Crampton, Lyla Reiber and Riley Carnecki.

Girls with Gears was one of two elementary teams from the Plainwell Robotics Club that participated in the tournament. The other was the Koala Bots from Cooper Elementary.

The Koala Bots—comprised of Pearl Morse, Grayson Davies and Carter Palme—placed 19th after the qualifying rounds and 12th in skills overall. The team finished the day in 12th place.

Members of Girls with Gears are (from left) Bridget Crampton, Lyla Reiber and Riley Carnecki. (Photo provided)

OHS band shines at State Solo and Ensemble Festival

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

PORTAGE—On Saturday, March 15, members of the Otsego High School band made the short trip to Portage Northern High School for the State Solo and Ensemble Festival.

According to OHS band director Mitch Piersma, the day couldn't have gone much better for his pupils.

OHS sent 52 events to the festival, earning first-division ratings in 40 of those and second-division ratings in the other 12.

"I'm so proud of these kids," Piersma said. "They earned more first-division ratings than other schools' total events. Many judges were amazed."

The 52 total events for OHS also represented the second most sent to the state festival in school history. In 2020, OHS sent 54 events.

"We had by far the most events from any school this year, including A and AA schools," Piersma said.

Many of the OHS students took a proficiency exam. Sophomores must go Proficiency 1; juniors can go Proficiency 1 or 2 depending on if they passed the year before; and seniors can go Proficiency 1, 2 or 3, depending if you passed the prior two.

To receive a first-division rating, proficiency exam soloists must achieve a score of 85 or above, with that score including scales and sight reading.

Proficiency exam soloists from Otsego who earned a first-division rating were:

Jeremy Perricone, Proficiency 1 – 85; Hannah Clayton, Proficiency 2 – 85; Alan Meyer, Proficiency 1 – 85; Navene Town, Proficiency 1 – 85; Addyson Livingston, Proficiency 1 – 86; Braden Stout, Proficiency 1 – 89; Gunnar Djerf, Proficiency 1 – 89; Nicolas Hummel, Proficiency 1 – 90; Kaelyn Block, Proficiency 1 – 90; Archer Wilson, Proficiency 1 – 90; Evan Robbins, Proficiency 1 – 90; Ava Hillyer, Proficiency 1 – 90; Noah Akers, Proficiency 1 – 91; Alexis O'Connell, Proficiency 1 – 93; Sarah McCaw, Proficiency 1 – 93; Lydia Griffith, Proficiency 1 – 94; Madelyn Borling, Proficiency 1 – 95; and Grace DeBoer, Proficiency 2 – 98.

Proficiency exam soloists earning a second-division rating were: Anna Pierce; Caleb Hummel; Jake Walters; Madison Collison; Piper Carper; and Madi Dendel.

For freshmen, soloists only perform their solo, with no scales or sight reading. OHS freshmen soloists earning a first-division rating were: Emma Zimmermann; Kaleb Koestner; Conor Taylor; Blake Schultz; Laura Schreiner; Kaelyn Gorenz; David Patin; and Amelia Tuttle.

Freshmen soloist Morgan Gruber earned a second-division rating.

In addition to the soloists, Otsego sent 17 ensembles to the festival.

"These involved many kids and the groups," Piersma said of the ensembles.

Those ensembles earned 13 first-division ratings and four second-division ratings.

Candidates ■ from Page A1

and a teacher in Wayland.

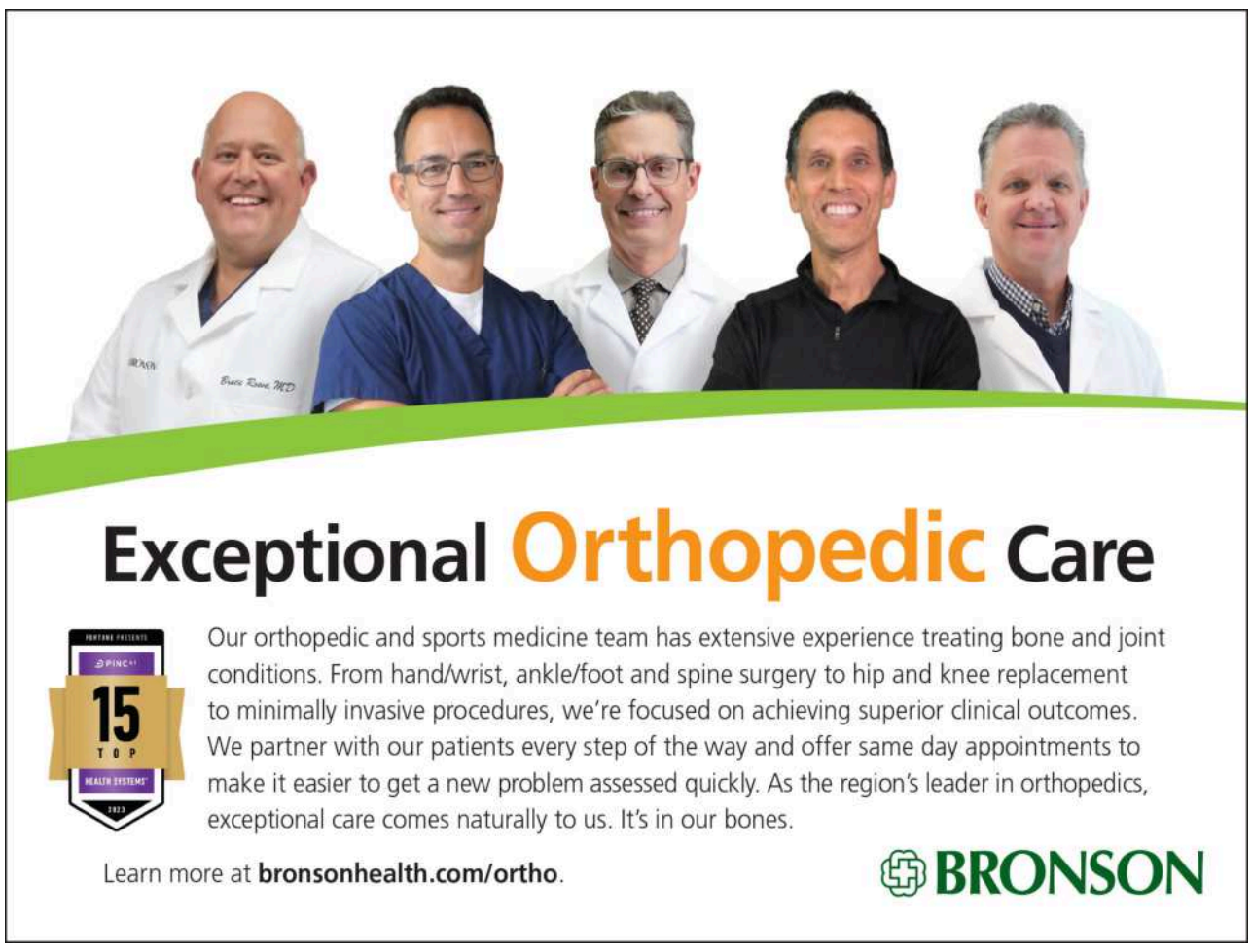
* **12:30 p.m. Rob Pouch, Ed.S.**, Superintendent in Morrice since 2021. Previously, he was a principal in Linden for nine years and an assistant principal and athletic director in Fremont for four years. He also taught social studies in Fremont and Peck.

* **1:30 p.m. Christie Robinson, Ed.D.**, superintendent in Springport since 2021. Previously, she was HS Principal in Galesburg-Augusta for eight years, and a teacher in Allegan and Grand Rapids.

* **2:30 p.m. Melissa Coleman, Ed.D.**, Administrator Special Assistant to Superintendent for CTE programs in Putnam County Schools. Previously, she was Executive Director Federal Programs, and HS and MS principal, curriculum trainer, vice-principal assistant principal, biology/chemistry teacher in Jacksonville Florida schools.

* **3:30 p.m. Matthew Webster, M.A.** in Teaching and Leadership, Assistant Superintendent in Schoolcraft since 2021. Previously, he was a principal in Schoolcraft and a principal in Illinois, and a teacher in Illinois.

The Board expects to appoint a new superintendent to begin July 1, 2025. Current superintendent Jeff Haase, who has held the position since July 2014, will retire effective June 30.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Thursday, March 20, 2025

Otsego's Smith capture two more state championships

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

Otsego junior Liam Smith is seen during the butterfly portion of the 200-yard IM. Smith won both the 200 IM and the 100 butterfly at the Division 3 Boys Swim & Dive State Finals, giving him five state championships in his career. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

YPSILANTI—People collect all sorts of things, like baseball cards, stamps, coins and rocks.

Otsego junior Liam Smith? He collects state championships.

In the Division 3 Boys Swim & Dive State Finals on Saturday, March 15, Smith won both the 200-yard IM (1:49.07) and the 100 butterfly (48.68) to give him five state titles in three years.

Smith, who was also All-State as part of Otsego's 400 free relay, led the Bulldogs to a seventh-place finish with 110 points.

Hamilton had the best local finish, placing fifth with 154 points. Plainwell was 12th with 62 points and Wayland was 15th with 31 points.

For his efforts, Smith was named Swimmer of the Meet as well as Division 3 Swimmer of the Year.

"What else can you say about Liam," Otsego coach Darryl Belton said. "And as good as he is as a swimmer, he's even better as a leader and even better than that as a human. He's also a monster competitor. I knew going into that pool that nobody, regardless of seed times, stood a chance."

That competitive nature could be seen in Smith's assessment of his performance.

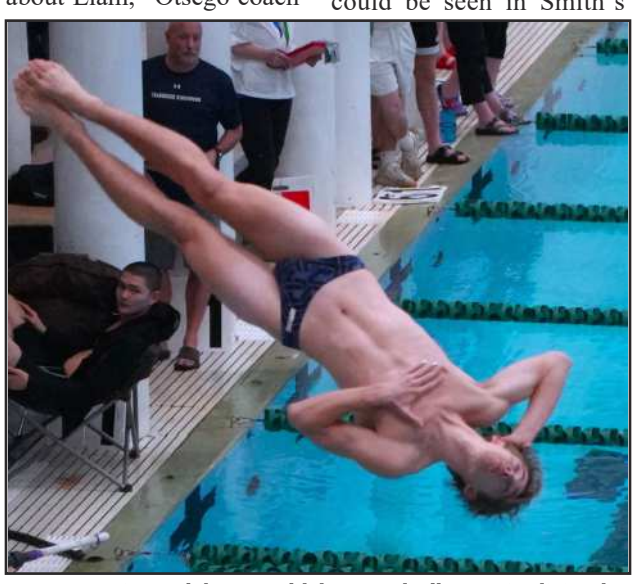
"I was a little disappointed with my times," said Smith, who garnered automatic All-American honors in the 200 IM and All-American consideration in the fly. "But you can't go your fastest every race and I can't complain about winning. It never gets old. It's awesome."

In the 400 free relay, Smith was joined by Willsun Fuller, Blake Guerrant and Carson Bydash to take seventh at 3:18.74. The top eight finishers in each event are All-State.

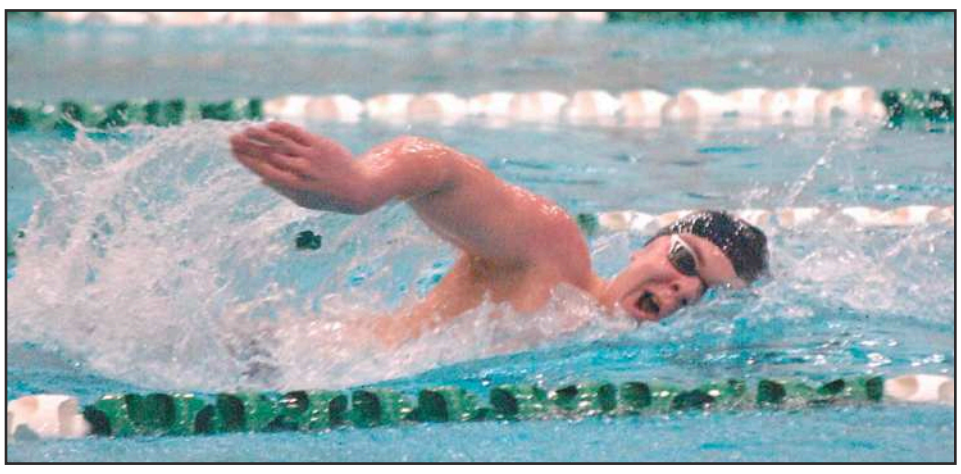
Fuller was All-State in the 100 fly, placing seventh at 53.61.

"Willsun making the top eight in the fly was fun," Belton said. "He has worked so hard in the last year to do that and when it was announced he was in the top eight, I couldn't have been happier."

Belton was also happy for Caleb Wesseldyk, who was All-State in diving after placing sixth with 348.95 points.



Otsego senior Caleb Wesseldyk earned All-State in diving by placing sixth at the State Finals. (Photo by Todd Masula)



Plainwell junior Sam Harper secured the first state tile of his career, winning the 500-yard freestyle. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

"Caleb barely missed the top eight last year and both he and I said that wasn't going to happen again," Belton said. "It was top eight or bust. And he did it. He was so focused this weekend. I knew after his second dive that he was going to be in the top eight. I felt so good for him.

"I couldn't be prouder of all the guys. I'm not ready to think about next year yet, but those guys have a lot to live up to."

Aside from Smith, the top individual performance came from Plainwell's Sam Harper.

After placing second in the 500 free as a freshman and fourth as a sophomore, Harper captured his first title in the event with a time of 4:34.62. He was also second in the 200 free at 1:41.81.

"Words cannot describe how proud I am of Sam and the rest of the team," Plainwell coach Andrea Murphy said. "Sam is a great leader and teammate. His team really respects him, and he inspires them to work harder and to show up.

"Him getting a state title is pretty impressive. He also rebroke his 500 school record and the 200 IM record this year and the 200 free school record. The 200 free record has been there since the late '90s. So, it has been a bit."

Plainwell diver Aidan Ranger nearly joined Harper in earning All-State. Ranger finished ninth, just six-tenths of a point out of eighth place with 312.45 points.

Fellow diver Phil Mathis placed 20th.

"Aidan and Phil had their best season to date," Murphy said. "It has been amazing to see how much these two both have grown in their sport."

Hamilton's Jack Langeland also had an impressive day, earning All-State in four events.

Individually, he was third in the 200 free (1:42.76) and sixth in the 100 fly (52.55). He also joined Landen Maatman, Justin Stark and Owen Lewis to place third in the 200 medley relay (1:36.81) before joining Stark, Brett VandenBerg and Lewis to place fifth in the 200 free relay (1:28.62).

Lewis, Jackson Hansen, VandenBerg and Stark placed eighth in the 400 free relay (3:24.86) as all three Hamilton relays earned All-State.

Other All-State performers for Hamilton were Stark in the 100 breaststroke (seventh at 1:00.09) and the diving duo of Brodie Brown (fifth at 360.9) and Jayden Bierschbach (seventh at 313.05).

Hamilton's Jack Langeland earned All-State in four events at the Division 3 State Finals. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

Softball Season Preview:

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

ALLEGAN

After the Allegan softball team saw its 2024 season ended early due to a lack of healthy players, the Tigers are back for the 2025 campaign.

And coach Luis Perez has some high hopes for this year's squad.

"I am very excited to get the Allegan Lady Tigers working together as a unified unit," Perez said. "My goal is to have our very young team come close to winning the SAC Conference Title, a district title and a state title, if at all possible."

Those are some lofty goals, to be sure. And if the Tigers are to accomplish them, then several young players will need to step up.

Allegan's roster includes no seniors and one returning junior: second baseman/outfielder Victoria Cooley.

Sophomores Sydney Cooley (catcher), Maia Perez (first base) and Miskomin Wesaw (third base/outfield) also return.

Newcomers include the sophomore trio of Savannah McGruder (centerfield), Hailey Sharp (outfield) Isabella McGowen (right field) along with freshmen Allea Pinnell (pitcher), Sophie Schuyler (third base), Ella Jones (right field), Vala Stough (right field) and Alaina TerMeer (second base).

"The team has started out strong and the girls are working as team," Luis Perez said. "The only concern I have is the ladies staying out of their own heads."

Luis Perez has coached various sports for the past 15 years, including baseball, wrestling, soccer, basketball and football. He sports a winning record in football, baseball and basketball, and hopes to add softball to that list as he enters his fourth year at the helm of the program.

"I plan on having the Lady Tigers work hard to achieve their goals and, most importantly, better themselves and believe in themselves.

"Our team is young, but we're eyeing success this year."

FENNVILLE

There's been a change in leadership for Fennville, as Meri Klenk takes over a head coach from Matthew Jefferson.

Klenk, who inherits a team that posted a 3-30 record a season ago, said fundamentals will be the focus for her team.

"While I want the best for our seniors, we are looking to make this year one where we grow, work on getting stronger and being more consistent. We also will be working on building a winning mentality, including getting those small wins during games and innings."

Junior pitcher Lily Achterhof leads a group of seven returning players.

"Lily is our returning pitcher and had been working hard in the offseason to build her strength," Klenk said.

Also returning are seniors Ariel Latchaw (pitcher/third base), Vivian Rasmussen (catcher/outfield), Cailey Mokma (infield), Aubrie Hammer (outfield) and Morgan Bailey (utility) along with junior first baseman Elena Reyes.

"I'm excited to get started with this group of girls and see where they take this season," Klenk said. "It will be a growing year, but these girls have the determination and ability to be successful."

Newcomers include juniors Autumn Zugel (pitcher/outfield), Reese Anaya (infield/outfield), Rylee Geister (utility) and Makaihla Steanburg (catcher).

"These girls are passionate about the sport and wanting to get better every practice," Klenk said. "They have the heart and determination to be as good as they can be.

"I'm really excited for this year and to start the process of rebuilding the softball program."

Hamilton's Taylor Oosterink prepares to step into the batter's box during a regional game last season. (Photo provided)

HAMILTON

Last season, Hamilton posted a 29-8 record that included a district championship and a berth in the regional finals.

And with six players—including three pitchers—back from that team, Hamilton coach Mark Behnke is optimistic when it comes to his outlook for the new campaign.

"We bring back three pitchers from last year's regional finalist team, which is huge for us," Behnke said. "Our goal is to win the OK Black Conference and to make another tournament run this year."

The three returning hurlers include senior Kianna Vork, junior Kelsey Mersman and sophomore Julia Brown. Vork and Mersman will both play on the infield when not in the pitcher's circle, while Brown will see time in the outfield.

Also back for the Hawkeyes are senior catcher/outfielder Taylor Oosterink, junior infielder/outfielder Maleena Luckadoo and sophomore outfielder/infielder Brooke Petroelje.

Newcomers who could make an impact include the freshman trio of infielders Lexi Mersman and Bella Goestsch along with catcher/infielder/outfielder Kendall Cornell.

"Every season is new and we will have to adapt to new roles and new faces," Behnke said. "But I really like our pitching and our hitting."

Among the teams who could join Hamilton in contending for top honors in the OK Black are Unity Christian and Zeeland East.

"Our program is growing and we look to build upon that growth in terms of on-field accomplishments, off-field culture and continuing to increase participation," Behnke said.

HOPKINS

Twenty years.

That's how long it's been since Hopkins has captured a conference championship in softball.

Amy Funk, entering her seventh season as head coach for the Vikings, hopes to end that drought.

"Our goal is to win the conference title," said Funk, who guided Hopkins to a second-place finish in the OK Silver a year ago as part of a 23-9 showing. "It's been a long time and we'd like to be the team that wins a title."

A strong group of returning players should help that cause.

Seniors Hannah Brinks (pitcher/first base), Lyla Reynolds (catcher), Ava Vanderkolk (third base), Maddie Schwartz (center field) and Cami Hibma (shortstop) all return for their fourth year at the varsity level. Four of those five will continue their softball careers at the collegiate level.

"Our five seniors are all very good leaders on and off the field," Funk said. "They are scholar-athletes in the classroom as well, as we have a team GPA of 3.7."

Junior outfielder Calleigh Washburn and sophomore pitcher Gracie Stallard join the seniors as returning players.

Rounding out the team are junior Kelsey Burgess (middle infield/first base/outfield), sophomore Kylie Williams (corner infield/catcher), sophomore Madi Veldher (outfield/second base/catcher) and freshman Makenna Funk (catcher/outfield/third base).

"We have a small team in terms of numbers, so staying healthy and avoiding injuries is a key for us," Amy Funk said.

The combination of experience and youth appeals to Coach Funk.

"We have an older yet younger squad, which should be fun," said Funk, who has a 101-50 career record in Hopkins. "We will be solid all-around on defense and offense. We are a small team, but these girls are feisty to ready to win.

"We've definitely got high energy and determination on the team."

see Softball, Page B2

Softball ■ from Page B1

MARTIN

Last season ended on a high note for Martin, as the Clippers won their first district championship in a decade.

And while Martin coach Jazmin Curry hopes to carry that momentum into the new season, she knows there will likely be a learning curve, especially early.

"We had a really strong senior class that was with us through all of the growing pains of switching coaching staff and canceling a season due to low participation," said Curry, who enters her fourth season as head coach for her alma mater. "I was really glad to see them win a district title.

"This season we will be doing some rebuilding. Our goals are to improve fundamentals, grow together as a team and create a strong mental game this year."

The teams four returning upperclassmen— senior second baseman/outfielder Keri Cornstubble along with juniors Marybeth Ritchie (pitcher/shortstop/outfield), Alley Bacon (third base) and Jadelynn Hooper (outfield)—will play key roles for the Clippers.

"I am hoping that the four upperclassmen will really step up this season and help the younger players grow and develop to make us overall a better team," Curry said.

Sophomores Maggie Sego (second base/outfield), Anna Jager (outfield) and Mackenzie Schwartz (outfield/first base) also return after playing at the varsity level last season.

Newcomers include freshmen Maybelle Noble (corner infield), Milee Schwartz (pitcher/shortstop/outfield), Allison Rodgers (pitcher/second base/outfield) AND Aliyah DeGlopper (catcher/third base/outfield) along with outfielder Ede Suk. Sophomore Malina Adams will also practice with the team, but is unable to play this season due to transfer rules.

"Our program is growing in size, but we are going to be young this year with lots of underclassmen," Curry said. "With having a young team, we are going to have to adjust to playing varsity softball.

"I am looking forward to seeing the growth that will come from this season and I am excited to see this group of girls compete."

Speaking of competing, Curry hopes to be competitive with all of the teams in the SAC this season. She sees Saugatuck and Gobles as two of the top contenders in the division, due largely to the experienced players they have returning.

"This year our conference will still be strong," Curry said. "It's too early to tell where we are going to fit in our conference at this point due to our youth."

■ see **Softball**, Page B3

Members of the Martin softball team huddle after a postseason game last year. (File photo)

Saugatuck girls fall to P-W in regional semifinals

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

GRANDVILLE—All things, no matter how good, must eventually come to an end.

For the Saugatuck girls basketball team, the end came in a Division 3 regional semifinal on Monday, March 10.

Taking on top-ranked and unbeaten Pewamo-Westphalia, the Trailblazers were simply over-matched in dropping the 51-23 decision.

The loss snapped a 17-game winning streak for Saugatuck, which ended the season at 22-2. It was the second-straight 20-win campaign for the Trailblazers.

"We got taken to the woodshed tonight," Saugatuck coach Kevin Tringali said. "We haven't faced a team like that. They were so fundamental offensively and took away gaps defensively. And they bottled up our guards, which is really difficult to do. That is a testament to their coaching staff being prepared."

Those aforementioned guards—juniors Tali Laskowski and Penny Grob and sophomore Mylah Simpson—have led the postseason charge for Saugatuck as star post player Kennedy Gustafson has been sidelined with an injury.

Simpson finished with a team-best nine points, while Laskowski and Grob had five points each.

"We prepared for what each of the three guards could do," P-W coach Steve Eklund said. "We had girls take on the challenge of guarding them one-on-one, and we did a really nice job with our help defense.

"They didn't have a good look at the basket all night long."

P-W wasted no time in setting the tone for the game, jumping out to a 16-1 lead after one quarter. By halftime, Saugatuck's deficit stood at 25-5.

While disappointed with the outcome of this game, Tringali said the season was about more than one game.

"We had a lot to be proud of this year, winning a conference and a district and being undefeated at home," he said. "This loss doesn't define this group."

And with Simpson, Laskowski and Grob all back next season, the future continues to look bright from the Trailblazers.

"The last few years, the bar of our program has risen," Tringali said. "A couple years ago, when we made it to regionals, we were just happy to be there. But this year, I felt like we were one of the top two teams in regionals.

"We are at our highest point since I've been here. There's a lot of excitement."

Saugatuck's Mylah Simpson handles the ball for the Trailblazers in a postseason game. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

Cochran named Fennville baseball coach

The Fennville athletic department announced Michael Cochran as the next head baseball coach.

Cochran has made coaching stops at various high schools and in the travel club baseball scene.

"I am really happy to be here in Fennville," Cochran said. "This young program with a solid history will be playing an exciting brand of baseball."

Cochran has years of experience as a player and a coach. He played at Grand Rapids Community College before ultimately graduating from Davenport University. After college, Cochran played in independent semi-professional baseball leagues.

As a coach, he has spent time in Zeeland Schools as an assistant coach. At the travel level, Cochran has been a part of the Lakeshore Warriors, Lakeshore Storm, Lakeshore Rebels and West-Side Rattlers, working with players ranging from 10U to college age.

"Coach Cochran stood alone as the candidate that was supposed to lead our baseball program," Fennville athletic director Tony Stennett said. "He has a wealth of knowledge and experience that will be beneficial to our students beyond just the baseball diamond.

"Coach knows the game well, has a clear vision for the program, and has a desire to see success in the Fennville Community."

Since the start of 2024, Cochran has gotten involved in education. This year he is at Fennville Middle School after starting at Hudsonville in upper elementary.

Prior to that, Cochran spent his career in financial services and insurance.

"Blackhawks baseball has work to do building the program stronger from youth through varsity," Cochran said. "I am blessed to have the opportunity in this community."

The Blackhawks start their season with a home double header against Bangor High School on Friday, March 21, starting at 4 p.m.

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Softball ■ from Page B2

Wayland's Harmony Laker is ruled safe during a regional game last season. Laker is back for her senior season before heading to Cedarville to play basketball next year. (File photo)

OTSEGO

A mix of youth and experience.

Yep. That pretty much sums up Otsego's roster for the new season.

The Bulldogs have six returning upperclassmen along with six newcomers—including three freshmen.

"We'll definitely be young in some spots," said Jake Knash, who enters his 12th season at the helm of the Bulldogs and has a career record of 199-165. "But we'll be competitive."

The return of two pitchers is a key factor in Knash's optimism for the season.

Junior Audrey Lingbeek and senior Cassie Holland will handle the bulk of the innings in the pitcher's circle, with the pair also sharing time at shortstop.

Both are also planning to compete at the collegiate level, with Holland signing to play for Glen Oaks Community College and Lingbeek committing to Western Michigan University.

"I have two pitchers returning who will be solid for us," Knash said. "They'll also provide good leadership along with the rest of our returning upperclassmen."

Those returning upperclassmen include senior first baseman Mariah Weaver, senior outfielder Madi Dendel, junior infielder Alyvia Farrell and junior catcher/outfielder Sydneigh Mosher.

The newcomers are juniors Sophia Pierce (utility) and Maddie Back (infield); sophomore Sophia Staeven (infield); and freshmen Addy Lucas (infield/pitcher), Emma Zimmerman (outfield) and Mikayla Bateman (catcher/infield).

It's a group Knash hopes can contend for a top spot in the Wolverine Conference standings following last year's fifth-place showing. Not that doing so will be an easy task.

"The Wolverine Conference is always competitive," Knash said. "I expect Vicksburg, Edwardsburg, Three Rivers and Paw Paw to be pretty tough this year. I feel with my returning pitching that we will be competitive. It will really come down to how well we hit."

The Bulldogs finished strong last season, besting Paw Paw in a district game before falling just short to Vicksburg—which ended up going to the state finals—in the district title game.

PLAINWELL

A strong group of returning seniors—led by four-year varsity starter Madison Seibert—will lead the way for Plainwell this season.

Seibert, who will play primarily shortstop, is joined in that senior contingent by first baseman/pitcher Sophia Barth, outfielder Sophie Munch, catcher Emma Preuss and outfielder Heidi Regainis.

Barth, Munch and Preuss are all entering their third year at the varsity level, while Ragainis returns for her second season of varsity action.

"We have great senior leadership this year, which will help this team win some games," Plainwell coach Don Seibert said.

Also returning from last season's 10-21 squad are junior pitcher/infielder Samantha McDaniel along with sophomore infielders/outfielders Paityn Holbrook and Tatum Johnson.

First-year senior infielder Glenna Branch and sophomore newcomers Miley Cooper (infield) and Taya Miller (infield/outfield) round out the team.

"This team will have a good infield to help keep innings short," Don Seibert said. "We will also have some power to move the top of the lineup around the bases. We will be putting the ball in play and scoring some runs."

The key to Plainwell's season will likely be pitching.

"Our team isn't the deepest when it comes to pitching, so locating pitches will be the focus," Don Seibert said.

Don Seibert views Edwardsburg, Three Rivers and Vicksburg as three of the top contenders in the Wolverine Conference.

"We hope to upset a few teams this season," he said. "We are hoping to win at home, and be competitive on the road to finish in the middle of the conference.

"The girls continue to work hard to improve. We are continuing to build through the middle school softball program as well."

SAUGATUCK

The graduation of Chloe Fris left a hole behind the plate for Saugatuck.

Enter senior Camryn Howard.

Despite limited experience at catcher, Howard is prepared to step in and be the Trailblazers' primary backstop, much to the relief of third-year Saugatuck coach Chad Burch.

"(The graduation of Fris) left some big shoes to fill," Burch said. "But Camryn is being a fantastic team player and stepping up. But that's not surprising, as she's the type of athlete who has always but the team first."

Howard is one of five returning seniors who will be asked to lead the charge for Saugatuck, which placed second in its conference last year.

Another of those seniors is Mikaila Jones, who will do the bulk of the pitching.

"When Mikaila is on her game pitching, we will be tough to beat," Burch said.

The other three retuning seniors are first baseman/center fielder Pru Hosier, left fielder/second baseman Lilliana Aumaugher and right fielder/first baseman Clara Saurino.

"Clara joined the team last year having never played before, but she improved a lot from the start to finish," Burch said. "She ended the season with an injury, but I expect a good year from her."

Returning junior Penny Grob will be the No. 2 pitcher behind Jones in addition to playing shortstop.

"We need a big year from her," Burch said.

Brianna Martinez, another returning junior, will play all over the diamond, allowing Burch plenty of defensive flexibility.

Freshman Kassidy Jones leads a group of six newcomers. She's slated to play primarily at third base, replacing the graduated Hanna Walker.

"Kassidy comes to us having played a lot of travel ball," Burch said. "Her experience playing travel ball should help her. She will be a key for us on defense and offensively."

Among the other newcomers is a pair of senior exchange students, one from France and one from Germany.

"It's been fun teaching them the sport," Burch said.

With the roster he has this season, Burch expects his team to be in contention for a divisional championship.

"We finished second in our (division) last year and I expect to be in the running this year also," he said. "But every year teams have new players, so you just never know who will be the strongest until you play the games."

WAYLAND

Winning and Wayland softball have gone hand in hand for decades.

Last season was no exception, as the Wildcats posted a 28-8-1 record that included OK Gold and district championships.

And with the vast majority of players from that team back this season, those winning ways are likely to continue as coach Cheri Ritz hopes to add to her 1,038-275 record.

Senior pitcher/infielder Harmony Laker and junior pitcher/infielder Madi Ludema lead the list of returning players.

Last year, Laker—who will play basketball at Cedarville next year—went 8-0 with a 0.89 ERA. She also hit .557 with four home runs.

Ludema, meanwhile, went 14-4 with a 1.23 ERA. At the plate, she smashed 12 homers to tie the school record while hitting .495.

Second baseman Izzy Johnson joins Laker as a returning senior. A defensive whiz, she posted a .980 fielding percentage as a junior.

In addition to Ludema, returning juniors are catcher Kaylee Lown, utility Rae Stallard, pitcher/outfielder/first baseman Shelby VanHouten, pitcher/corner infielder Mackenzie Kositsky, utility Kennedy Lown and outfielder Laney Wolf.

Sophomores Rae Cardosa (pitcher/first base), Madison Jordan (utility) and Clara Dutkiewicz (outfield/second base) round out the team.

"It should be another fun, exciting year," Ritz said.

Pitching will be a key for Saugatuck this season (left), while Audrey Lingbeek returns for Otsego (top). Lingbeek, a junior, has committed to play collegiately at Western Michigan University. She is one of two returning pitchers for the Bulldogs, joining Cassie Holland. (File photos)

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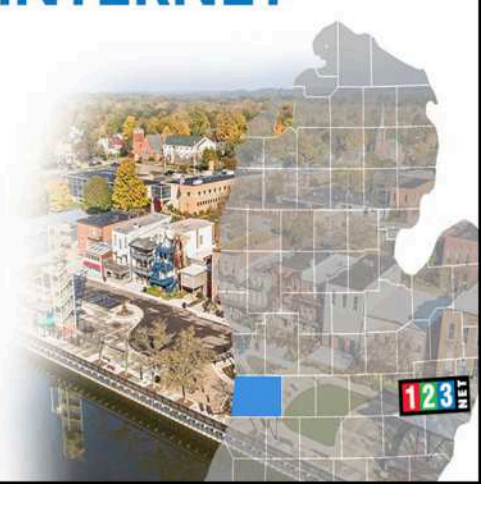

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Faces in the Crowd

By G C Stoppel

We have several different but overlapping 'road seasons' here in west Michigan - snow, roadkill, road repair, and potholes. The question this week: How do you like our current crop of potholes?

-Man at a gas station on M-89. "Sure is a bumper crop isn't it? They'll keep the road crews busy this spring."

-Man at the next pump: "I'm going to have to have my wheels re-aligned." He added a few more words that I cannot repeat.

-Couple near Mug Shots in Allegan, Woman: "Same thing every year. We get potholes and the county or state fixes them, and they come back the next year." Man: "Sort of like that Whack a Mole. That's what it's called, isn't it? Whack a Mole?"

-Man, same location: Laughs, "I got a long gravel driveway. It's my parent's old house, and dad and I used to fill in the holes with clinkers from the furnace. Now, I have to buy a load of gravel to do it."

-Man near the Allegan Post Office. "You know, it's on account of water getting into every seam between the slabs. They got to have those seams for the cement to expand and contract, but the water gets in there, and then we get potholes. So, before you spout off, it aint got nothing to do with Biden or Trump."

-Woman near Allegan Public Library; "This side of Fennville, on M-89, I discovered there is an epic pothole on the side of the road. There was a car coming at me, half in my lane, so I had to pull right - and right into the pothole. It tore up the tire and I had to call a tow truck, and then a trooper stopped. He said I was lucky it was just the tire and not me that got hurt. And then he said he could write me a ticket for unsafe driving!"

-Man over-hearing the conversation, "It's a war out there. Between deer on the road and potholes, it's a war."

-Man near the Huntington Bank: "I guess it keeps the highway crews employed. I just hope no politician tries laying them off or something."

-Woman near the Allegan County News: "It's worse in Illinois. They got potholes all over the place, and the worst ones are on the toll roads. So, they got to pay to drive over bad roads and have their tires fixed!"

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For The Record

Peek at the Past

From the pages of The Allegan News and The Allegan County News and Gazette:

March 20, 1950

Expect more than 1,200 4-H Achievement exhibits: "Bigger and better than ever before"—the press agent's wheeze that usually means nothing—can be applied without fear of error to this year's Achievement program for Allegan County 4-H club members.

The big, 3-day program gets underway in the Griswold building today with a full schedule of hard work involved in setting up exhibits and making last-minute plans.

Club agent William MacLean has reported that there are 14 new clubs in the county—organized since last spring—which added 400 new members to the county group. And that also means, he said, 500 new projects and a great many more exhibits.

More than 1,200 project exhibits are expected, an increase of more than 300 over last year.

March 20, 1975

Sunday stroll becomes junk-et: Three Allegan youngsters were just taking a stroll on a warm Sunday afternoon when they noticed that the roadside on M-40 North outside of town was littered with cans, papers and bottles.

So what started as just a walk ended with the accumulation of several bags of junk that motorists had chucked from their car windows. It also ended with a mini-ecological demonstration of volunteer spirit.

The three youngsters—Kathleen Royale, 18, Mike Royale, 13, and Gilbert Wagi, their four-year-old nephew—were walking along M-40 North near the Royale's home on Cherry Lane Sunday trying to discover what their new neighborhood looked like.

Out of the mouth of babes came a challenge-request from Gilbert—why not pick up the cans and litter people had thrown out of their cars and people walking along the road tripped on?

"We've just moved here and decided to walk and see what it's like," Kathleen, a senior at Allegan High, said. "It was Gilbert's idea to pick up the trach while we were walking."

Beth Clawson, Allegan County's new parks director, climbs the boardwalk while checking out one of her responsibilities, Littlejohn Lake Park. (Photo by Dan Kelsey)

March 23, 2000

New director to join Allegan parks: A new parks director has begun her work in Allegan County.

Her employers found her within the boundaries of their own territory.

Beth Clawson, 39, of South Monterey, got an early start on her duties. Hired effective May 6, Clawson was writing grants at the Allegan County parks office with her predecessor, Lisa Kiessling, by March 6. The tenures of the two overlap by several weeks.

Clawson, who turns 40 March 26, earned a bachelor of science degree at Grand Valley State University in natural resource management in 1999. Her course emphasized watershed management. She minored in environmental studies at Western Michigan University between 1995 and 1997.

AT GVSU's Robert B. Annis Water Resources Institute, Clawson served as an intern, research assistant and media coordinator. At WMU's biological studies department, she performed work study, lab assistant and general office duties.

She worked in bookkeeping and circulation at The Paw Paw Courier Leader, in production layout and paste up at The Bangor Express and in layout, paste up and pressman at The Gobles News.

Allegan County administrator Kim Higgs said Clawson's qualifications were impressive.

"We're glad to have her on board," Higgs said.

March 19, 2020

Gorgas wins Pan Am U-20 race, Comerford places ninth: Saugatuck cross country and track coach Rick Bauer felt a combination of emotions as he watched former star pupil Corey Gorgas compete in the Pan American Cross Country Cup late last month.

"It was like old times," said Bauer, who saw Gorgas win to cross country and two track state championships during his prep career. "I was nervous and excited for him. I had moments of doubt, even though I should know by now that I should never doubt Corey."

No, he shouldn't.

Gorgas finished the 8K race at Victoria, British Columbia's Bear Mountain in Langford with a time of 27:15 to claim the U-20 championship by five seconds over Team USA teammate Evan Bishop.

"This is an amazing experience," said Gorgas, a freshman at Northern Arizona University. "It's one of the favorite weekends of my life. It's really just an honor to represent Team USA. I couldn't be happier to come out and do it in Victoria, Canada, and have a great time representing my country.

"This is what I've been aiming for for a long time, so I'm honored to get it done."

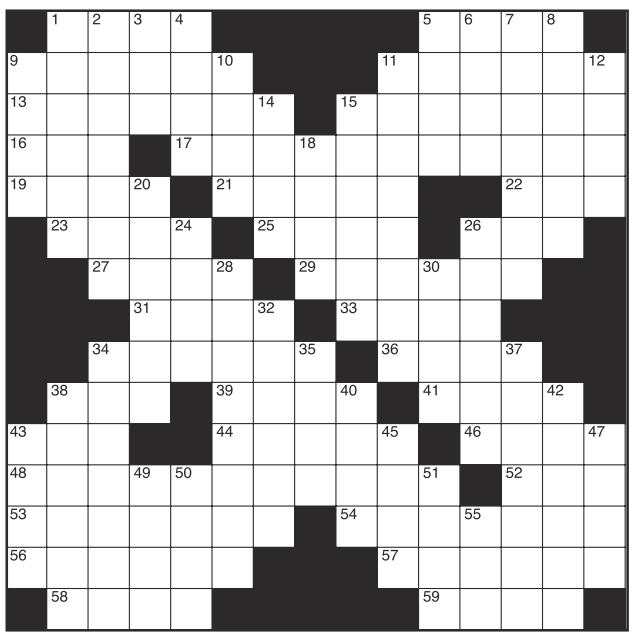
Otsego High School graduate and current Syracuse University runner Alex Comerford also competed in the race, earning a top-10 showing by finishing ninth at 27:54.

Gorgas, Comerford and Bishop—a senior at East Grand Rapids High School—have competed against each other since their middle school days.

—Compiled by Jason Wesseldyk

Resting at the side of the road following their half-mile clean-up of cans, bottles, and other trash along the road are Kathleen Royale, Gilbert Wagi and Mike Royale. The three spent several hours Sunday volunteering their time to clean up a part of M-40 North outside of Allegan. Despite being a little tired from pickup up five garbage bags of trash, they said they might do it again soon. —News & Gazette photo

Crossword



CLUES ACROSS
1. Take heed
5. One's superior
9. Prepped meat
11. Tighten anew
13. Type of textile fiber
15. Animalistic
16. When you hope to get somewhere
17. Offender
19. Former NYC mayor Ed
21. Type of cryptocurrency
22. Mauna __, Hawaiian volcano
23. Herring-like fish
25. Popular PBS program
26. Congressman (abbr.)
27. Flightless Australian birds
29. Defrosted
31. Prior Yankee sensation Kevin
33. Nasal mucus
34. Some are southern
36. A place to construct
38. Popular beer brand
39. Shouts of farewell
41. Network of nerves
43. Make a mistake
44. Showed old movie
46. Body parts
48. A divisor
52. Congressional investigatory body
53. Papers
54. Most unnatural
56. Judge the worth of something
57. Makes sounds while sleeping
58. Which
59. Hungarian Violinist

CLUES DOWN
1. Pages
2. Head pain
3. A loud utterance
4. Large brown seaweed
5. Hulu's chef Carmine
6. Greek mountain
7. Made final
8. Bar
9. Tai subgroup
10. What you eat
11. Teaches again
12. Small constellation
14. Type of berry
15. Cows fattened for meat
18. A way to hoof it
20. Exaggerated a role
24. About two
26. Long upholstered seat
28. What employees earn
30. Fiber from a coconut husk
32. Digits
34. Polish by rubbing
35. Liquid body substances
37. Furniture with open shelves
38. Edible part of a chicken
40. Satisfy
42. Tool used to remove
43. Icelandic poems
45. Swiss village
47. Drunks
49. Evergreen plant genus
50. Light precipitation
51. Ribosomal ribonucleic acid
55. An informal debt instrument

■ see **Solution**, Page B7

Deaths

Feb. 15, 2025
SUSAN KAY ROGERS, 73, Holland

Feb. 20, 2025
RICHARD GORDON MAJOR JR, 71, Allegan Twp.

Feb. 25, 2025
EDWIN LEAMON PERRY, 59, Gun Plain Twp.

Feb. 26, 2025
PATRICIA ANNE RENKEMA, 80, Clyde Twp.

Feb. 28, 2025
JOHN THOMAS OKON, 58, Otsego
BARBARA JEAN DREYER, 81, Laketown Twp.

March 1, 2025
CHARLOTTE CATHERINE FEIN, 79, Dorr Twp.
ELIZABETH ANN ANDERSON, 78, Casco Twp.

March 3, 2025
JOEL WILLIAM WILSON, 74, Fillmore Twp.
TERRY EDWARD GEORGE, 64, Wayland Twp.

March 4, 2025
DORIS EMELINE HYDER, 99, Gun Plain Twp.
NATALIE ANN DOZEMAN, 55, Overisel Twp.
ELLA MARIE DECKER, 85, Saugatuck Twp.
ELLIS MARSHALL, 92, Martin Twp.
MARLA RAY KOLLAR, 74, Allegan

March 6, 2025
JAMES DONALD BEVINS, 74, Plainwell
KAL CAMERON LOVETT, 68, Otsego Twp.

March 7, 2025
MARY FEDAK, 102, Douglas

March 8, 2025
MYSTI DAWN HEAD, 27, Allegan

March 10, 2025
BETTE JUNE SCHUBERT, 90, Manlius Twp.

Marriages

The following people applied for a marriage license between March 4 and March 12:

ALEXANDER PATRICK GALOVAN, Plainwell, and **KATIE MARIE RUSH**, Plainwell

KELLEY ANN SAINTZ, Fennville, and **MONTE EDWARD HENRY**, Fennville

JOSE LUIS JIMINEZ-LEYVA, Otsego, and **CINDY SARAI RAMIREZ-LOPEZ**, Otsego

TIFFANY PAIGE SINACOLA, Allegan, and **ALWYN RYAN JONES**, Allegan

EMMA RENE KWEKEL, Allegan, and **JAMES MANUEL KING**, Allegan

JONATHAN WHITMORE ARNOLD, Hastings, and **MAYA BETH MATULIS**, Holland

CAMELIA ROSE JARVIS, Otsego, and **HEATHER ANDREA DURHAM**, Otsego

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

SUDOKU

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

				1			2	9
	7							
5				7		6		
1					2			6
			3			9		7
				5	9			4
			6		7			
8		7			4	3		
	4	5						

(See Solution Page B7)

Public Notices

NOTICE OF INTENT TO FORFEIT AND DISPOSE OF PROPERTY

BRADLEY BASTOW (formerly of 6990 114th Ave. in South Haven):

The state of Michigan, Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, herewith provides notice that it intends to dispose of certain personal property that was seized on May 12, 2017, in the course of investigating a complaint filed with the Bureau of Professional Licensing (Complaint No. 51-XX-146276). If you believe you have a claim to said property, please reply in writing to:

Lorne Carignan
Bureau of Professional Licensing
611 W. Ottawa
P.O. Box 30670
Lansing, Michigan 48909
1-23 3-27

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on April 17, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Adam J. Watkins and Daniela M. Watkins, husband and wife, as tenants by the entireties

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Freedom Mortgage Corporation

Date of Mortgage: December 28, 2020

Date of Mortgage Recording: January 6, 2021

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $330,409.53

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Trowbridge, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Part of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 24, Town 1 North, Range 13 West, described as follows: Commencing at the Southwest corner of said Section 24; thence North along the West line of the Southwest 1/4 of said Section 24, 522.72 feet to the point of beginning of the parcel of land herein described; thence continuing North along said West line, 797.87 feet; thence East perpendicular to said West line, 647.74 feet; thence South parallel with said West line, 797.87 feet; thence West perpendicular to said West line, 647.74 feet to the point of beginning.

Except the following Parcels A and B:

Parcel A (Southerly portion)

That part of the West 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 24, Town 1 North, Range 13 West described as Commencing at the Southwest corner of said Section 24; thence North 00 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East on the West line of said Section, 522.72 feet to the point of beginning of the parcel of land herein described; thence continuing North 00 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East on said West line, 185.75 feet; thence South 73 degrees 59 minutes 56 seconds East, 673.85 feet; thence North 90 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds West, 647.74 feet to the West line of said Section and the point of beginning.

Parcel B (Northerly portion)

That part of the West 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 24, Town 1 North, Range 13 West described as Commencing at the Southwest corner of said Section 24; thence North 00 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East on the West line of said Section, 1320.59 feet; thence North 90 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East, 50.90 feet to the point of beginning of the parcel of land herein described; thence continuing North 90 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East, 596.84 feet; thence South 00 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds West, 200.04 feet; thence North 71 degrees 28 minutes 14 seconds West 629.47 feet to the point of beginning.

Common street address (if any): 435 26th St, Allegan, MI 49010-9788

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of notice: February 27, 2025
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1553934
(02-27)(03-20)

FORECLOSURE NOTICE Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 09:00 AM, April 3, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by James A. Laux, A Married Man to Fifth Third Mortgage - MI, LLC, Mortgagee, dated July 31, 2014, and recorded on August 18, 2014, in Liber 3858, Page 910, Allegan County Records, said mortgage was assigned to Fifth Third Bank, National Association, FKA Fifth Third Bank as successor by merger to Fifth Third Mortgage Company by an Assignment of Mortgage dated August 21, 2015 and recorded August 25, 2015 in Liber 3957, Page 153, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Sixty-Three Thousand Two Hundred Nineteen and 30/100 ($63,219.30) including interest at the rate of 4.37500% per annum. Said premises are situated in the Township of Clyde, Allegan County, Michigan, and are described as: Commencing at a point 344.0 feet North of the South 1/8 post of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 17, Town 2 North, Range 15 West, Clyde Township, Allegan County, Michigan; Thence continuing North 208.71 feet; Thence East 417.42 feet; Thence South 208.71 feet; Thence West 417.42 feet to the place of beginning. Also commencing 344 feet North of the South 1/8 post of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 17, Town 2 North, Range 15 West, Clyde Township, Allegan County, Michigan; Thence East 417.42 feet to the place of beginning of this description; Thence North 208.71 feet; Thence East to Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad right of way; Thence Southerly along said railroad right of way to a point 344 feet North of the South Section line; Thence West to beginning. Commonly known as: 1823 57TH ST, FENNVILLE, MI 49408 If the property is eventually sold at foreclosure sale, the redemption period will be 6.00 months from the date of sale unless the property is abandoned or used for agricultural purposes. If the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241 and/or 600.3241a, the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of sale, or 15 days after statutory notice, whichever is later. If the property is presumed to be used for agricultural purposes prior to the date of the foreclosure sale pursuant to MCL 600.3240, the redemption period is 1 year. Pursuant to MCL 600.3278, if the property is sold at a foreclosure sale, the borrower(s) will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale. In that event, your damages are, if any, limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. Dated: February 27, 2025 Randall S. Miller & Associates, P.C. Attorneys for Fifth Third Bank, National Association, FKA Fifth Third Bank as successor by merger to Fifth Third Mortgage Company 43252 Woodward Avenue, Suite 180, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302, (248) 335-9200 Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Case No. 25MI00069-1

(02-27)(03-20)

SHORT FORECLOSURE NOTICE - ALLEGAN COUNTY Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement. Notice is given under section 49c of the State Housing Development Authority Act of 1966, 1966 PA 346, MCL 125.1449c, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on April 03, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE: Mortgagor(s): Dominick Fisher, single man Original Mortgagee: Mortgage 1 Incorporated Date of mortgage: July 31, 2020 Recorded on August 11, 2020, Liber 4495, on Page 359, and re-recorded via Affidavit of Correction on February 22, 2023, Liber 4837, on Page 375, Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Michigan State Housing Development Authority Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: One Hundred Sixteen Thousand Three Hundred Fifty and 80/100 Dollars ($116,350.80) Mortgaged premises: Situated in Allegan County, and described as: Lot 11 of Aspen Acres, Valley Township, Allegan County, Michigan, according to the recorded plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 9 of Plats on Page 48, Allegan County Records. Commonly known as 4361 Moore Rd, Allegan, MI 49010 The redemption period will be 6 month from the date of such sale, unless abandoned under MCL 125.1449v, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 125.1449v(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Michigan State Housing Development Authority Mortgagee/ Assignee Schneiderman & Sherman P.C. 23938 Research Dr, Suite 300 Farmington Hills, MI 48335 248.539.7400

1554489
(02-27)(03-20)

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

This firm is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information we obtain will be used for that purpose.

Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, Michigan, starting promptly at 9:00 o'clock in the forenoon on Thursday, the 17th day of April, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.

The mortgage was made by DAY MOON ENTERPRISES, LLC, a Michigan limited liability company ("Mortgagor"), to GREENSTONE FARM CREDIT SERVICES, FLCA, a federally chartered corporation, having an office at 3515 West Road, East Lansing, Michigan 48823 (the "Mortgagee"), dated December 15, 2017, and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for Allegan County, Michigan on January 19, 2018, in Liber 4215, Page 227, as amended by an Amendment to Mortgage dated September 19, 2018, and recorded in the office of the Register od Deeds for Allegan County, Michigan on September 25, 2018, in Liber 4285, Page 142 (the "Mortgage"). By reason of a default under the conditions of the Mortgage, the Mortgagee elects to declare and hereby declares the entire unpaid amount of the Mortgage due and payable forthwith. Mortgagee is the owner of the indebtedness secured by the Mortgage.

As of the date of this Notice there is claimed to be due for principal and interest on the Mortgage the sum of Seven Hundred Sixty-Nine Thousand Four Hundred Thirty-Three and 72/100 Dollars ($769,433.72). No suit or proceeding at law has been instituted to recover the debt secured by the Mortgage or any part thereof.

The premises covered by the Mortgage are situated in the Township of Ganges, County of Allegan, State of Michigan, and are described as follows:

Parcel 1: Beginning on the North and South 1/4 line of Section 20, Town 2 North, Range 16 West, Ganges Township, Allegan County, Michigan, at a point 103.00 feet North 00 degrees 06 minutes 00 seconds East of the South 1/4 post of the Section; thence North 00 degrees 06 minutes 00 seconds East on said 1/4 West 1/8 line in the Southeast 1/4, 1204.94 feet to the East and West 1/8 line; thence South 88 degrees 58 minutes 27 seconds East on said 1/8 line 358.24 feet; thence South 00 degrees 04 minutes 29 seconds West 1308.36 feet to the South Section line; thence North 88 degrees 54 minutes 30 seconds West on same 238.83 feet; thence North 00 degrees 06 minutes 00 seconds East 103.00 feet; thence North 88 degrees 54 minutes 30 seconds West, 120.00 feet to the place of beginning.

Parcel 2: Beginning on the South line of Section 20, Town 2 North, Range 16 West, Ganges Township, Allegan County, Michigan, at a point 358.83 feet South 88 degrees 54 minutes 30 seconds East of the South 1/4 post of the Section; thence North 00 degrees 04 minutes 29 seconds East 1308.36 feet to the East and West 1/8 line; thence South 88 degrees 58 minutes 27 seconds East on said 1/8 line, 150.00 feet; thence South 00 degrees 04 minutes 29 seconds West parallel with the East line of the West 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4, 1308.53 feet to the South line of the Section; thence North 88 degrees 54 minutes 30 seconds West on same, 150.00 feet to the place of beginning.

Parcel 3: The East 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4 and the West 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 20, Ganges Township, Allegan County, Michigan, EXCEPT that part lying East of U.S. 31. And also that part of the East 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 20 which lies Westerly of U.S. 31, EXCEPT that part of the East 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 20 being described as: Beginning on the East and West 1/8 line of the Southeast 1/4, Section 20 at a point 141.70 feet North 88 degrees 58 minutes 17 seconds West of the East line of the Section; thence North 88 degrees 58 minutes 17 seconds West on said 1/8 line, 516.54 feet; thence South 00 degrees 01 minute 30 seconds West 416.88 feet; thence South 89 degrees 58 minutes 17 seconds East, 317.58 feet to the center of Blue Star Highway; thence along the center of said highway on a curve to the left with a radius of 2292 feet to the far end of a chord that bears North 25 degrees 43 minutes 20 seconds East, a distance of 458.78 feet to the place of beginning, Ganges Township, Allegan County, Michigan.

Parcel 4: Beginning on the South line of Section 20, Town 2 North, Range 16 West, Ganges Township, Allegan County, Michigan, at a point 508.83 feet South 88 degrees 54 minutes 30 seconds East of the South 1/4 post of the Section; thence North 00 degrees 04 minutes 29 seconds East 1308.53 feet to the East and West 1/8 line; thence South 88 degrees 58 minutes 27 seconds East on said 1/8 line 150.00 feet; thence South 00 degrees 04 minutes 29 seconds West on the East line of the West 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4, 1308.71 feet to the South line of the Section; thence North 88 degrees 54 minutes 30 seconds West on same, 150.00 feet to the place of beginning.

Together with all fixtures, tenements, hereditaments, and appurtenances belonging or in any way appertaining to the premises.

Commonly known as: 1630 Blue Star Highway, Fennville, Michigan 49408

P.P. 03-07-020-019-11 (Parcel 1); 03-07-020-019-12 (Parcel 2); 03-07-020-027-00 (Parcel 3) and #03-07-020-019-10 (Parcel 4)

Notice is further given that the length of the redemption period will be six (6) months from the date of sale. If the premises are sold at a foreclosure sale, under MCLA §600.3278 the Mortgagor will be held responsible to the person who buys the premises at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the Mortgagee for damaging the premises during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the Mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

Dated: March 6, 2025

GREENSTONE FARM CREDIT SERVICES, FLCA
Mortgagee
Timothy Hillegonds
WARNER NORCROSS + JUDD LLP
150 Ottawa Avenue NW Suite 1500
Grand Rapids, MI 49503-2487
(616) 752-2000
32036167
3-6 3-27

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on April 3, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Steven J Borst an unmarried man

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Lake Michigan Credit Union

Date of Mortgage: May 23, 2018

Date of Mortgage Recording: June 14, 2018

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $197,040.98

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Martin, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Commencing at a point on the West line of Section 20, Town 2 North, Range 11 West, Martin Township, Allegan County, Michigan, 1894.07 feet North of the West 1/4 post of Section 20; thence North 125 feet, thence East 200 feet, thence South 125 feet; thence West 200 feet to the point of beginning

Common street address (if any): 1773 10th St, Martin, MI 49070-8711

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of notice: March 6, 2025
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1554689
(03-06)(03-27)

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in ALLEGAN County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on April 3, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE INFORMATION: Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Ashley N. Rogers, an unmarried woman, whose address is 219 4th Street, Plainwell, Michigan 49080, as original Mortgagors, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Amerifirst Financial Corporation, being a mortgage dated April 1, 2022, and recorded on April 4, 2022 in Liber 4746 Page 448, Allegan County Records, State of Michigan and then assigned to Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC, as assignee as documented by an assignment dated February 7, 2024 and recorded on February 7, 2024 in Liber 4919 Page 184, Allegan County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of ONE HUNDRED SIXTY-NINE THOUSAND THIRTY AND 48/100 DOLLARS ($169,030.48). Said premises are situated in the Township of Gun Plain, County of Allegan, State of Michigan, and are described as: Part of the Southwest one-quarter of the Southwest one quarter of Section 26, Town 1 North, Range 11 West, Gun Plain Township, Allegan County, Michigan; commencing at the Southwest corner of said Section 26; thence North 00 degrees 07 minutes 33 seconds West along the West line of Section 26, 412.50 feet to the Place of Beginning; thence continuing North 00 degrees 07 minutes 33 seconds West along said West line 198.00 feet; thence North 89 degrees 59 minutes 47 seconds East 320.00 feet; thence South 00 degrees 07 minutes 33 seconds East 198.00 feet; thence South 89 degrees 59 minutes 47 seconds West 320.00 feet to the West line of Section 26 and the Place of Beginning. Street Address: 219 4th Street, Plainwell, Michigan 49080 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA § 600.3241a in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of the sale. If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCLA § 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: IF YOU ARE A MILITARY SERVICE MEMBER ON ACTIVE DUTY, IF YOUR PERIOD OF ACTIVE DUTY HAS CONCLUDED LESS THAN 90 DAYS AGO, OR IF YOU HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO ACTIVE DUTY, PLEASE CONTACT THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PARTY FORECLOSING THE MORTGAGE AT THE TELEPHONE NUMBER STATED IN THIS NOTICE. Dated: March 6, 2025 For more information, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing: Robert A. Blumberg (87490), Johnson, Blumberg, & Associates, LLC, 5955 West Main Street, Suite 509, Kalamazoo, MI 49009. Telephone: (312) 541-9710. File No.: MI 25 6322

(03-06)(03-27)

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM on APRIL 17, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.

Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Timothy A. Stevens and Tari Stevens, husband and wife, to Household Finance Corporation III, Mortgagee, dated November 26, 2002 and recorded January 3, 2003 in Liber 2366, Page 209 and Scrivener's Affidavit recorded on July 6, 2011, in Liber 3528, Page 660, Allegan County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by J.P. Morgan Mortgage Acquisition Corp., by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Eighty-Five Thousand Five Hundred Eighty-Two and 92/100 Dollars ($185,582.92).

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue at the place of holding the circuit court within Allegan County, Michigan at 9:00 AM on APRIL 17, 2025.

Said premises are located in the Township of Dorr, Allegan County Michigan, and are described as:

The North 124.84 feet of the West 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 17, Town 4 North, Range 12 West.

4245 21st Street, Dorr, Michigan 49323

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA §600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period.

Dated: March 6, 2025
File No. 25-002709
Firm Name: Orlans Law Group PLLC
Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084
Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400
(03-06)(03-27)

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on April 17, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.

Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Darcy Lloyd, an unmarried woman and Jackie Lloyd, an unmarried man, to Fifth Third Mortgage - MI, LLC, Mortgagee, dated April 1, 2010 and recorded April 13, 2010 in Liber 3410, Page 229 Allegan County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by Fifth Third Bank, National Association, by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Seventy-Five Thousand Nine Hundred Eighty-Four and 12/100 Dollars ($75,984.12).

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public vendue at the place of holding the circuit court within Allegan County, Michigan at 9:00 AM on APRIL 17, 2025.

Said premises are located in the Township of GANGES, Allegan County Michigan, and are described as:

Part of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 9, Town 2 North, Range 16 West, Ganges Township, Allegan County, Michigan, being described as: Beginning at the East 1/4 corner of said Section, thence North 01 degree 18 minutes 46 seconds West 327.48 feet along the East line of said Section; thence North 89 degrees 30 minutes 53 seconds West 529.64 feet; thence South 01 degree 24 minutes 14 seconds East 326.85 feet; thence South 89 degrees 26 minutes 42 seconds East 529.14 feet along the East and West 1/4 line of said Section to the Point of Beginning.

2110 66th St, Fennville, Michigan 49408

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA §600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period.

Dated: March 13, 2025
File No. 25-002042
Firm Name: Orlans Law Group PLLC
Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084
Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400
(03-13)(04-03)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on April 17, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Frank E. Blink II and Crystal Dawn Blink, husband and wife

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): PennyMac Loan Services, LLC

Date of Mortgage: October 22, 2021

Date of Mortgage Recording: November 1, 2021

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $141,780.55

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Clyde, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Commencing at the Northeast corner of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 20, Town 2 North, Range 15 West, thence South 198 feet to the place of beginning, thence West 330 feet thence South 132 feet, thence East 330 feet, thence North 132 feet to the place of beginning.

Also commencing at the Northeast corner of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 20, Town 2 North, Range 15 West, thence West 140 feet to the place of beginning, thence South 198 feet, thence West 190 feet, thence North 198 feet, thence East 190 feet to the place of beginning.

Common street address (if any): 5616 118th Ave, Fennville, MI 49408-9556

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of notice: March 13, 2025
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1555272
(03-13)(04-03)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on May 1, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Zachary Kragness, a single man

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Nationstar Mortgage LLC

Date of Mortgage: July 3, 2017

Date of Mortgage Recording: July 11, 2017

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $180,322.44

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in City of Fennville, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Lot 20, Landsburg's Plat, according to the plat thereof recorded in Liber 6 of Plats, Page 26, Allegan County Records

Common street address (if any): 5667 Landsburg Rd, Fennville, MI 49408-9479

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of notice: March 13, 2025
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1555341
(03-13)(04-03)

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, Michigan starting promptly at 9:00 a.m. on April 17, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Mortgage (the "Mortgage") made by Steven Kamyszek, a single person, as Mortgagor to United Bank of Michigan, a Michigan banking corporation, dated September 3, 2020, and recorded on October 7, 2020, in Liber 4520, Page 840, Instrument No. 2020020611, recorded in Allegan County Records, Allegan County, Michigan. The balance owing on the Mortgage is $105,193.07 at the time of this Notice. The Mortgage contains a power of sale and no suit or proceeding at law or in equity has been instituted to recover the debt secured by the Mortgage, or any part of the Mortgage. The Mortgagee will apply the sale proceeds to the debt secured by the Mortgage as stated above, plus interest on the amount due at the rate of 3.000% per annum; all legal costs and expenses, including attorney's fees allowed by law; and also any amount paid by the Mortgagee to protect its interest in the property. The property to be sold at foreclosure is all of that real estate situated in the Township of Dorr, County of Allegan, State of Michigan, described as: The North 16 rods of the West 10 rods of the East 1/2 of the West 1/2 of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 25, Town 4 North, Range 12 West, Dorr Township, Allegan County, Michigan. Together with and subject to easements and restrictions of record. APN # 03 05 025 004 00 Commonly known as: 1270 140th Avenue, Wayland, MI 49348 The redemption period shall be six (6) months from the date of sale pursuant to MCLA 600.3240(8), unless deemed abandoned and then pursuant to the time frames provided for in MCL 600.3241a. Pursuant to MCL 600.3278, Mortgagor will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. March 3, 2025 UNITED BANK OF MICHIGAN, Mortgagee PLUNKETT COONEY KELLI L. BAKER (P49960) Attorney for Mortgagee 333 Bridge Street NW, Suite 530 Grand Rapids, Michigan 49504 (616) 752-4624

(03-13)(04-10)

(Continued on Page B7)

Public Notices

Continued from Page B6

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement
Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on April 17, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:
Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Jonathan M. Buczek, AKA Jonathan Buczek, a married man and Kathryn M. Buczek, his wife
Original Mortgagee: Chemical Bank
Foreclosing Assignee (if any): U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR RCAF ACQUISITION TRUST
Date of Mortgage: October 8, 2015
Date of Mortgage Recording: November 2, 2015
Amount claimed due on date of notice: $167,558.27
Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Valley, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Unit 10, Nature View Estates, a Site Condominium according to the Master Deed recorded in Liber 3170, Page 288, as amended, in the Office of the Allegan County Register of Deeds, and designated as Allegan County Condominium Subdivision Plan No. 275, together with rights in general common elements and limited common elements as set forth in said Master Deed, and amendments thereto, and as described in Act 59 of the Public Acts of 1978, as amended. Common street address (if any): 1603 Nature View Ln, Allegan, MI 49010-9112
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale.
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.
This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of notice: March 13, 2025
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1555204
(03-13)(04-03)

STATE OF MICHIGAN
JUDICIAL DISTRICT
48th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
COUNTY PROBATE
MOTION AND VERIFICATION FOR ALTERNATE SERVICE
CASE NO. 25-70103-CZ
Court address 113 Chestnut St., Allegan, MI 49010
Court telephone no. (269) 673-0300
Plaintiff name(s), address(es), and telephone no(s).
Sandy Pines Wilderness Trails, Inc.
c/o Joel Baar (P56796)
3140 Red Mill Ave. SW, Grandville, MI 49418
(616) 965-2221
v
Defendant name(s), address(es), and telephone no(s).
The Estate of Naomi Virginia Powlin and
The Estate of Joan Sherry Podjan
In the matter of
1. Service of process upon The Estate of Naomi Virginia Powlin and The Estate of Joan Sherry Podjanas cannot reasonably be madeotherwise provided in MCR 2.105, as shown in the following verification of process server.
3. | request the court order service by alternate means.
I declare that the statements above are true to the best of my 7 knowledge, and belief.
2-28-2025
Joel Baar P56796
3140 Red Mill Ave SW
Grandville, MI 49418
VERIFICATION OF PROCESS SERVER
1. | have tried to serve process on this defendant as described: State date, place, and what occurred on each occasion.
The Defendants have been deceased for several years and no estates have been opened. In Case No. 24-68900-CA, Judge Antkoviak stated he would allow service by publication if/when a new lawsuit were to be filed.
I declare that the statements above are true to the best of my information, knowledge, and belief.

STATE OF MICHIGAN
JUDICIAL DISTRICT
48th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
COUNTY PROBATE
SUMMONS
Hon. Matthew Antkoviak P-59449
CASE NO. 25-70103-CZ
Court address 113 Chestnut St., Allegan, MI 49010
Court telephone no. (269) 673-0300
Plaintiff name(s), address(es), and telephone no(s).
Sandy Pines Wilderness Trails, Inc.
c/o Joel Baar (P56796)
3140 Red Mill Ave. SW, Grandville, MI 49418
(616) 965-2221
Plaintiff's attorney, bar no., address, and telephone no.
Joel Baar (P56796)
Hannah M. Recknagel (P85758)
3140 Red Mill Ave. SW
Grandville, MI 49418
616-965-2221
v
Defendant name(s), address(es), and telephone no(s).
The Estate of Naomi Virginia Powlin and
The Estate of Joan Sherry Podjan
Civil Case
A civil action between these parties or other parties arising out of the transaction or occurrence alleged in the complaint has been previously filed in this court where it was given case number 24-68900-Cz and assigned to Judge Matthew Antkoviak.
The action is no longer pending.
SUMMONS|
NOTICE TO THE DEFENDANT: In the name of the people of the State of Michigan you are notified:
1. You are being sued.
2. YOU HAVE 21 DAYS after receiving this summons and a copy of the complaint to file a written answer with the court and serve a copy on the other party or take other lawful action with the court (28 days if you were served by mail or you were served outside of Michigan).
3. If you do not answer or take other action within the time allowed, judgment may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. -
4. If you require accommodations to use the court because of a disability or if you require a foreign Language interpreter to help you fully participate in court proceedings, please contract the court immediately to make araingments.
Issue date: 02/13/25 Expiration date: 05/13/25

STATE OF MICHIGAN
JUDICIAL DISTRICT
48th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
COUNTY PROBATE
ORDER REGARDING ALTERNATE SERVICE
CASE NO. 25-70103-CZ
Court address 113 Chestnut St., Allegan, MI 49010
Court telephone no. (269) 673-0300
Plaintiff name(s), address(es), and telephone no(s).
Sandy Pines wildemess Trails, Inc.
c/o Plaintiff's Attorney
Plaintiff's attorney, bar no., address, and telephone no.
Joel Baar (P56796)
Hannah M. Recknagel (P85758)
3140 Red Mill Ave. SW
Grandville, MI 49418
616-965-2221
v
Defendant name(s), address(es), and telephone no(s).
The Estate of Naomi Virginia Powlin and
The Estate of Joan Sherry Podjan
THE COURT FINDS:
1. Service of process upon the defendant, The Estate of Naomi Virginia Powlin and The Estate of Joan Sherry Podjan cannot reasonably be made as provided in ~~ MCR 2.105 MCR 2.107(B)(1)(b) and service of process may be made in a manner that is reasonably calculated to give the defendant actual notice of the proceedings and an opportunity to be heard.
IT IS ORDERED:
2. Service of the summons and complaint ~~and a copy of this order shall be made by the following method(s).
d. Other: Publication in the Herald Palladium (the local newspaper of both decedents) per MCR 2.106
3-20 4-3

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
ALLEGAN COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
CASE NO. XXX and JUDGE
Court address 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010
Court telephone no.(269) 673-0250
Estate of Lucy Catherina Kuipers Date of Birth:*03/09/1949
TO ALL CREDITORS: **
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Lucy Catherina Kuipers, died 10/28/2024.
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to LaVerne Bush , personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
03/07/2025
Elisabeth J, Rubel P66791
838 W. Long Lake Road, Suite 225
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302
(248) 635-5028
LaVerne Bush
3914 Tallgrass West Court
Holland, MI 49424
(616) 994-0020

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement
Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on April 17, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:
Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Todd A. Smith, a married man and Miranda M. Smith, his wife
Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns
Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Citibank, N.A., not in its individual capacity but solely as Owner Trustee of New Residential Mortgage Loan Trust 2019-RPL3
Date of Mortgage: September 13, 2006
Date of Mortgage Recording: September 15, 2006
Amount claimed due on date of notice: $92,201.68
Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in City of Plainwell, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Lot 122 and 123, Corporation Plat, being in Section 29, Town 1 North, Range 11 West, according to the Plat thereof recorded in liber 1 of Plats, Page 12 in the office of the Register of Deeds for Allegan County Records
Common street address (if any): 204 N Sherwood Ave, Plainwell, MI 49080-1429
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.
Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of notice: March 20, 2025
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1556177
(03-20)(04-10)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement
Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on April 17, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:
Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Juan Marquez, a married man
Original Mortgagee: Lake Michigan Credit Union
Foreclosing Assignee (if any): None
Date of Mortgage: November 14, 2018
Date of Mortgage Recording: November 20, 2018
Amount claimed due on date of notice: $20,847.76
Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Clyde, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Commencing 40 rods North of the Southwest corner of the West 1/2 of the West 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 16, Town 2 North, Range 15 West; thence North 12 Rods; thence East 40 rods; thence South 12 rods; thence West 40 rods to the place of beginning.
Common street address (if any): NHN 55 th St, Fennville, MI 49408
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.
Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of notice: March 20, 2025
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1556179
(03-20)(04-10)

NOTICE TO ALL CREDITORS:
The Hart Family Trust
The Settlor, Peter C. Hart, date of birth February 19, 1942, who lived at 6430 Copperleaf Court, Holland, MI 49423, died December 26, 2024. There is no personal representative of the settlor's estate to whom Letters of Administration have been issued.
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against The Hart Family Trust u/a/d December 13, 2024, as amended, will be forever banned unless presented to Natalie A. Hart, Trustee, within four months after the date of publication.
Notice is further given that the Trust will thereafter be assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it.
Charles E. Cottrell (P71639)
6585 Belding Road, Ste C
Rockford, MI 49341
(616)866-0902
Natalie A. Hart, Trustee
c/o 6585 Belding Road, Ste C
Rockford, MI 49341
(616)866-0902

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at that place where Circuit Court is held in Allegan County, Michigan, starting promptly at 9:00 a.m., on Thursday, May 1, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Default has been made in the conditions of a certain Commercial Mortgage ("Mortgage") to secure an indebtedness in the original amount of $398,750.00, from RVRCTY Ventures, LLC, the Mortgagor, to Velocity Commercial Capital, LLC dba New Day Commercial Capital, Mortgagee, dated October 22, 2024, recorded on November 4, 2024, 2024, at Liber 4987, Page 541, of the Records of the Allergan County Register of Deeds, on which Mortgage there is claimed to be due the amount of $406,240.98, plus regular interest accruing on the principal balance of $398,414.15 at the rate of 10.25% per annum, plus default interest at the rate of 5.0% per annum, plus loan fees that continue to accrue thereafter, plus late charges, corporate advances, and escrow advances that continue to accrue thereafter, plus any applicable contractual prepayment penalty, plus legal fees and costs. No suit or proceeding at law has been instituted to recover the debt secured by said Mortgage or any part thereof. Said premises are commonly known as 1139 146th Ave., Wayland, MI 49348, situated in Allegan County, Michigan, and are described as follows: THE LAND REFERRED TO HEREIN BELOW IS SITUATED IN THE CITY OF LEIGHTON TOWNSHIP, COUNTY OF ALLEGAN, STATE OF MICHIGAN AND IS DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: THAT PART OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 6, TOWN 4 NORTH, RANGE 11 WEST, LEIGHTON TOWNSHIP, ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN, DESCRIBED AS: COMMENCING AT THE SOUTH 1/4 CORNER OF SAID SECTION; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 58 MINUTES 08 SECONDS WEST 1 013.66 FEET ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID SOUTHWEST 1/4 TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 58 MINUTES 08 SECONDS WEST 170.00 FEET ALONG SAID SOUTH LINE; THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 21 MINUTES 05 SECONDS WEST 386.50 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 58 MINUTES 08 SECONDS EAST 170.00 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 21 MINUTES 05 SECONDS EAST 386.50 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING. APN: 13-006-024-50 Notice is further given that the length of the redemption shall be six months from the date of sale. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. If the mortgaged premises is sold at a foreclosure sale under MCL Chapter 600, under section 3278, the Mortgagor will be held responsible to the person who buys the mortgaged premises at the mortgage foreclosure sale for damaging the mortgaged premises during the redemption period. This Instrument Prepared By: Zachary D. Prendergast, Esq. Robbins Kelly Patterson & Tucker 312 Elm Street, Suite 2200 Cincinnati, Ohio 45202 Phone: (513) 721-3330 Fax: (513) 721-5001 E-Mail: zprendergast@rkpt.com
(03-20)(04-10)

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE SALE Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Kayla Picolet and Kayla Picolet to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Austin Capital Bank SSB dated June 14, 2019 and recorded June 20, 2019 in Liber 4354, Page 624, Allegan County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by MidFirst Bank by assignment. In pursuance and by virtue of a Judgment of Foreclosure of Mortgage and Declaratory Relief entered for Plaintiff, MidFirst Bank against Defendant(s), Kayla Picolet in Case No. 24-68997-CH of Allegan County Circuit Court, the below premises shall be foreclosed and sold by public auction. Said Judgment of Foreclosure of Mortgage and Declaratory Relief was entered on the 10th day of February, 2025, wherein there is claimed to be due on said date the sum of One Hundred Thirty-Six Thousand Twenty Dollars and Twenty-Six Cents ($136,020.26), which includes interest from at a rate of 6.75% plus sums advanced for taxes, insurance and other fees incurred and allowed by said mortgage. Under the Judgment of Foreclosure of Mortgage and Declaratory Relief was entered that said mortgage will be foreclosed by sale of the mortgage premises pursuant to the Judgment of Foreclosure of Mortgage and Declaratory Relief and that the sale shall be at public auction to the highest bidder, at public venue, at the place of holding the circuit court within Allegan County, on the 15th day of May, 2025 at 9:00 AM, Eastern Standard Time, the following described property, viz: All certain piece or parcel of land situated in the Township of Valley, County of Allegan and State of Michigan, described as follows: Lot 28 in Alpha Manor, according to the plat thereof recorded in Liber 6 of Plats, Page 39, Allegan County Records. Commonly Known As: 1751 Tom Nolan Rd, Allegan, MI, 49010 Tax ID: 22-100-028-00 This property may be redeemed during the six (6) months following the sale. Dated: March 17, 2025 Orlans Law Group PLLC /s/Sogol I. Plagany Attorney Name Attorneys for Plaintiff File No. 24-005784
(03-20)(04-24)

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in ALLEGAN County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on April 17, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE INFORMATION: Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Laurie A. Maxam, an unmarried woman, whose address is 356 Washinton Street, Otsego, Michigan 49078, as original Mortgagors, to MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS NOMINEE FOR AMERIFIRST FINANCIAL CORPORATION, being a mortgage dated August 31, 2021, and recorded on September 10, 2021 in Liber 4669 Page 478, Allegan County Records, State of Michigan and then assigned to Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC, as assignee as documented by an assignment dated October 2, 2023 and recorded on October 3, 2023 in Liber 4892 Page 57, Allegan County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of ONE HUNDRED TEN THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED ELEVEN AND 89/100 DOLLARS ($110,911.89). Said premises are situated in the City of Ostego, County of Allegan, State of Michigan, and are described as: LOT 89, RAVEN'S ADDITION TO THE VILLAGE (NOW CITY) OF OTSEGO, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN LIBER 2 OF PLATS, PAGE 61, ALLEGAN COUNTY RECORDS. Street Address: 356 Washinton Street, Otsego, Michigan 49078 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA § 600.3241a in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of the sale. If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCLA § 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: IF YOU ARE A MILITARY SERVICE MEMBER ON ACTIVE DUTY, IF YOUR PERIOD OF ACTIVE DUTY HAS CONCLUDED LESS THAN 90 DAYS AGO, OR IF YOU HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO ACTIVE DUTY, PLEASE CONTACT THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PARTY FORECLOSING THE MORTGAGE AT THE TELEPHONE NUMBER STATED IN THIS NOTICE. Dated: March 20, 2025 For more information, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing: Robert A. Blumberg (P87490), Johnson, Blumberg, & Associates, LLC, 5955 West Main Street, Suite 509, Kalamazoo, MI 49009. Telephone: (312) 541-9710. File No.: MI 25 6364
(03-20)(04-10)

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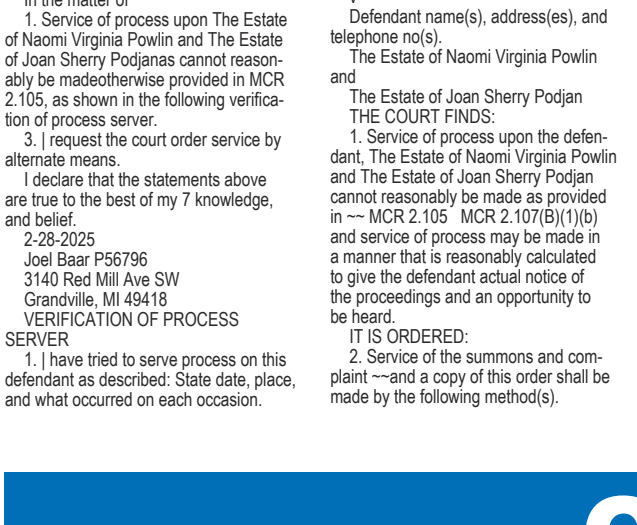

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2	1	3	6	8	7	4	9	5
8	9	7	5	2	4	3	6	1
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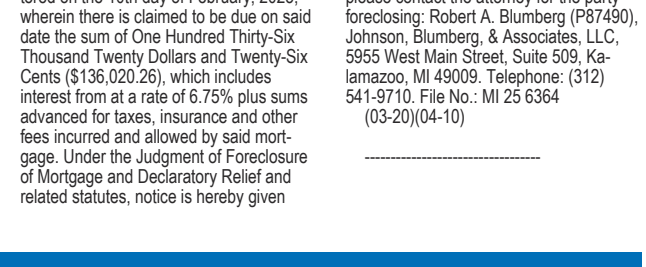
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RELIGION SECTION

About a century ago, Stephen Leacock transformed his life from being a shabbily dressed mathematics professor into Canada's most beloved humorist. Once, someone asked how he did it, and his answer surprised everyone: "It's because I am always early for a haircut and shave at the barbershop." The reporter who was interviewing him was confused, and Leacock explained. He arrived well before his appointment so he could sit and listen to others. Then, on the walk home, he converted what he heard into a story. He sold the story or made it a chapter in one of his books, and they sold at a good clip. The secret to his success was showing up and being there.

Another time, a reporter asked Leacock if he believed in luck. "Yes," he said, "the harder I work the more luck I have."

More than anything else, those two factors of turning up and doing the hard work, are the keys to success in all of life. It applies to children in school, employees at the job site, and our most important relationships.

It especially applies to our relationship with Jesus. In practical terms it means attending church services on a regular basis, spending time in prayer and meditation, and reading our Bibles and books on a growing spiritual faith. It means fully engaging ourselves in what is happening in the moment, as well as taking time to reflect on our faith, and what is happening in the rest of the world.

That is rarely easy. Although we know the word of God does not change, our world is constantly changing. As tempting as it might be to recoil from it and claim we are not interested, that really does not work. By the Lord's "Great Commission," we have to do the work of applying God's word to what is swirling around us but also develop the skill of looking at the world and then understanding what it might teach us about God's love for us.

In the 12th chapter of his letter to the Romans, St. Paul reminds us we also face the perpetual challenge of not conforming to the standards of the world, but using the Word of God to transform our mind and heart. From there, we see new opportunities to help and care for the people of God. From there, we get on with the business at hand of doing the work of God for the people of God.

G C Stoppel
Priest Associate
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Allegan, MI

Directory of Area Churches

Allegan Assembly of God
424 DeLano St, Allegan
Pastors Tim Heath & Paul Hays
Church: 673-6577

Allegan Bible Church
412 S. Sherman, Allegan
Pastor Jon Gruss
Church: 673-6831

Allegan Christian Center
700 Ely St., Allegan
Paul Knuckles, Pastor
Church: 673-2921

Allegan County Jail
Chaplain Sarah Montgomery
Phone: 673-0350

Allegan United Methodist Church
Corner Walnut & Trowbridge streets, Allegan
Pastor Julia Humenik
Church: 673-4236;

At the Master's Feet
814 21st St., Otsego
269-694-6897
Paster Ray Brown

Blessed Sacrament Church
110 N. Cedar Street, Allegan
Fr. Simon Manjooran
Church: 673-4455

Bloomingdale Bible Church
210 Chestnut at Pine NW
Bloomingdale
Ofc. 269-427-2101

Bravo Community Church
5587 113th Ave., Fennville
Pastor Duane Terpstra
616-886-1214

Burnips United Methodist
4241 30th, Burnips
Craig VanBeek, Pastor
616-896-8410

Calvary Church of Wayland (IFCA)
304 S. Main Street, Wayland
Pastor Chad Peckham
ccwayland.org

Casco United Methodist Church
880 66th Street, South Haven
Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.
269-227-3328
www.cascoumc.org

Chicora Country Chapel
4399 108th Ave., Allegan
Pastor Herb Curry
Phone: 269-370-5834

Christ Community Church
3370 113th Ave., Allegan
www.alleganccc.org ·
(269) 673-2329
Pastor Wally Coots

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
687 Linn Street, Allegan
Church: 673-9617

Church of God - Otsego
112 Kalamazoo St., Otsego
Pastor Stephen Burrow Sr.
269-694-9481
www.otsegocog.com

Corner Bible Church
4001 124th Allegan
673-5995
www.cornerbiblechurch.com

CrossWind Community Church
1632 142nd Avenue
Dorr, MI 49323
616-359-9013
Pastor Tommy Boutell

Dunningville Reformed Church
2559 M-40, Allegan
Church: 751-5894
Pastor Eric Burrows-Stone
dunningville.org/index.html

East Martin Christian Reformed Church
510-118th Ave., Martin
269-672-5746
www.eastmartincrc.org

Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd
101 North Walnut St, Allegan
Office: 673-2254

Faith Baptist Church
2846 125th Ave., Allegan
John Looman, Pastor
673-5040 1-888-354-3272

Fennville Assembly of God
5897 124th Ave.
Fennville, MI 49408
269-561-2683

Fennville United Methodist Church
5849 124th St., Fennville
269-561-5048
Bob Lynch, Pastor
www.fennvilleumc.org

First Presbyterian Church
200 Cutler Street, Allegan
Church: 673-4631
www.fpcallegan.org
Pastor Sheri Harris
10:30 service time.

First Baptist Church
1290 32nd St., Allegan
Service at 10:00am
Pastors Nathan Smith & Brendon Bayley
www.fbcallegan.com

First Baptist Church of Otsego
247 E Allegan St., Otsego
(269) 694-4160
firstbaptist@fbcotsego.org

First Church of God
1313 Marshall Street, Allegan
269 673-3881
www.pathtohim.org
Pastor, Tim Secord

First Congregational Church
323 Cutler Street, Allegan
Church Office: 673-3139
Pastor Todd Wagner

First Congregational Church
120 W. Morrell St., Otsego
269-694-6085
Pastor Lenny Luchetti

First Presbyterian Church of Plainwell
303 East Bridge St.
Plainwell, MI 49080
685-5990

Friendship Bible Church
104 Baker St., Hopkins, MI
Pastor Chris Cronk and Worship Pastor Tony Caldarona
Office 793-7929

Ganges Baptist Church
6577 122nd Avenue, Fennville
269-543-4203
11AM each Sunday

Grace Church of Hamilton
3690 Lincoln Rd. P.o. Box 97
Hamilton Mi 49419
269.264.4900
Gracechurchofhamilton@gmail.com

Haven Church
PO Box 1
4691 Oak Street, Hamilton
(269)751-7300
Pastor Mike Drew
FB:havenreformedchurch

Hope Lutheran Church
290 12th St., Plainwell
(269) 685-1348
Pastor Nicole Smith
Worship 10:30am; S. School 9:15am

Hopkins Community Reformed Church
2142 128th Ave., Hopkins
(269) 793-7361
hopkinscommunitychurch.net

Hopkins United Methodist Church
322 N. Maple St., Hopkins
(269) 793-7323
Pastor Kelsey French

Horseshoe Community Bible Church
4950 104th Avenue, Grand Junction
269-521-4580 ·
Pastor Don Miller

Immanuel Lutheran Church
631 Grand Street, Allegan
Church: 673-3335
Rev. Christopher Laughlin

Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witness
2199 Taft Road, Allegan
Phone: 673-6179

Living Waters Community Church
5458 M-89, Fennville
Service: 10:30 Sundays
Pastor Andrew Leach
269-561-5277

M-40 North Church of God
1900 M-40, Allegan
Pastor Nathan Strom
Church: 673-4412

Martin Reformed Church
1073 W. Allegan St., Martin
Pastor: Matthew Hendricks
672-5596

Martin United Methodist Church
969 E. Allegan St., Martin
Pastor Margaret Stoken
269-672-7097
www.martinumc.org

Merson Church
3313 102nd Ave., Gobles, MI
Pastor Alan Carson
Office: 673-5274
www.mersonchurch.org

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Monterey Center United Methodist Church
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Monterey Center, 49328
Craig VanBeek, Pastor
793-7288

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5425 105th Ave., Pullman
Pastor Everett Belue
269-382-3405

New Hope Baptist Church
2011 Lincoln Road (M-40 N)
Pastor Tadd Butler
673-1938

Northbridge Church
8824 Douglas, Kalamazoo
269-385-4378 ·
www.northbridge.cc

Northpoint Ministries
10976 M40 (M40/CR390)
Gobles MI · 269.628.9199
Pastor Gary Lounsberry
Sunday Worship: 11am

OAKLAND CRC
4460 38th Street
Hamilton. Mi. 49419
616 688 5290
Pastor Mark Vande Zande

Otsego United Methodist Church
223 E Allegan St. Otsego MI
10:00 a.m. Worship
Reverend Dan Minor
Otsegomethodistchurch.org

Peace Lutheran Church
805 S. Wilmott St., Otsego
www.peaceotsego.com
694-6104

Pearl United Methodist Church
1689 56th St., Fennville
269-561-5048 Worship 9:30 am
Bob Lynch, Pastor
www.fennvilleumc.org

Iglesia de Dios Pentecostal M.I. Pentecostal Church of God I.M
2281 57th St, Fennville
Wed/Miércoles @ 7:00 pm
Sunday/Domingo @ 10:00 am
Worship Service @ 11:00am
Rev. Jeremias & Maribel Gaytan
231) 923-6887 - (231) 923-6959
Email: gytnj@yahoo.com

Plainwell First Baptist Church
404 W. Bridge St., Plainwell
(269) 685-8888
Pastor George Osborn

Plainwell First United Methodist Church
200 Park St. Plainwell
269-685-5113
www.fumcplainwell.com

Rectify Church
247 N. Main St., Allegan
616-218-1556
Pastor Sarah Montgomery

Refreshing Springs Ministries
201 Briggs St., Allegan
616-510-7416
Pastor Adrian Hall

Restoration Christian Community
Live service 10:00 am Sundays
RestorationChristianCommunity.org
Pastor Austin T Kreutz
269 567 8330

River of Life Church
605 W. Allegan, Otsego
269-672-9904
www.alleganchurch.com

Seventh Day Adventist Church
229 Cutler Street, Allegan
Dan Rachor, Pastor
Church: 673-3284

Shelbyville United Methodist Church
938 124th Ave., Shelbyville
672-7097 - Church office
Pastor Margaret Stoken

South Monterey United Methodist Church
Pastor Kelsey French
Church: 793-7323

St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church
11850 9 Mile Rd., Shelbyville
269-664-4345
Service: Sundays 9:30 am

Saint John's Church Of God In Christ
716 Academy St, Allegan
Rev. Jeremiah Johnson Sr.
Phone: 673-8590—673-3007

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
1764 34th St., Allegan
Pastor Ronald Kruse 673-2079
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.

St. Margaret's Catholic Church
766 S. Farmer St., Otsego
269-694-6311

Third Coast Community Church
www.thirdcoastff.org |
269.857.5633
6069 Blue Star Hwy, Saugatuck, MI 49453
Sunday Worship: 10:00am

Trowbridge Community Church
355 26th Street, Otsego
Pastor Mykel Hall, Pastor
Church: 673-5502

The River Flows with Hope and Healing
1652 M-40 North, Allegan
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

Unity Baptist Church
35 14 12th St. Wayland
Pastor Kelly Ryan
Cell # (269) 330-2217

Watson Bible Church
1626 116th St., Otsego
Pastor Tim Morris
672-2166

Wayland Community Church
502 West Superior, Wayland
(616) 877-6134
Worship Sunday @ 10:30am

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